

# *The* **KINGBIRD**



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# The KINGBIRD

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## PHOTOGRAPHS OF NEW YORK STATE RARITIES

### 4. Smew



Photograph by Dr. Donald Gunn

The 3rd edition (1910) of the A.O.U. *Check-list* records the Smew (*Mergus albellus*) as "accidental in northern North America" (p. 68). Presumably this is on the basis of Alexander Wilson's erroneous observations (see Audubon, *Ornithological Biography*, 4: 350, 1838). In subsequent editions of the Check-list (4th and 5th, 1931 and 1957, respectively) the Smew is relegated to the hypothetical list: "Audubon's sight record of this Old World species, and several other alleged occurrences in America, are unsatisfactory" (5th edition, p. 646). Actually, Aubudon (*op. cit.*) based his account on a bird he *collected* at "Lake Barataria, not far from New Orleans in the winter of 1819" (p. 350). Although apparently no longer extant, this is the individual which served as the model for the adult female Smew of plate cccxlvii, fig. 2. of the Elephant Folio. (Audubon, *op. cit.*).

A Smew (presumed to be an immature male) was discovered at Buffalo Harbor, Erie Co., on 17 January 1960 during the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs annual winter waterfowl count, by Robert D. Coggesshall, Robert F. Andrlé, and Joseph F. Thill. It was seen again, by numerous observers, on the 18th, 19th, and 22nd. Two attempts to collect the bird failed. Shortly thereafter the harbor froze and the Smew disappeared only to be rediscovered by James Baillie on the Niagara River



Photograph by Dr. Donald Gunn

near Miller's Creek, Ontario, Canada. The bird was present in this area, as well as in the vicinity of Frenchman's and Usshers Creeks (also on the Niagara River) until 30 March, after which it was not seen again.

For a description and further details see Coggeshall (*Prothonotary*, 26: 60-61, Sept. 1960) and Mitchell (*Birds of the Niagara Frontier Region*, Bull. Buffalo Soc. Nat. Sciences, 22: 154, 1965).

The above photographs, taken on 26 February 1960, by Donald Gunn, originally appeared in the latter work and are reproduced here through the courtesy of both Gunn and Mitchell.

The Smew is a boreal Palearctic species which according to Vaurie [*The Birds of the Palearctic Fauna* (non-Passeriformes), H. F. and G. Witherby, London, 1965, pp. 137-138], breeds from Scandinavia east to Siberia and winters "from southern Norway and southern Sweden south to the British Isles, France . . . [the] Mediterranean . . . Black Sea, Iraq, Caspian Sea, Iranian region, northern India, Japan, Korea, and eastern China south to about the Yangtze . . .".

As pointed out by Coggeshall (*op. cit.*) mergansers are extremely rare in captivity and, so far as is known, no zoo in this country has ever had a Smew.

The footnote on p. 154 of Mitchell (*op. cit.*), referring to a bird seen at Grand Island in 1937 by Beardslee, was meant to accompany the Ruddy Duck account, but was mistakenly placed with the Smew (Mitchell, *in litt.*)

Peter W. Post, Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla. 32603.

## THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Dear Friends:

Having just returned from having a look at a very rare (for western New York and this season) Northern Phalarope, I am in the mood to send greetings to members of the Federation.

Every president has to have a platform, I suppose, so I present here-with my hopes for the Federation during my term in office.

- 1) Membership: Being in favor of larger membership is about equivalent to being against sin. Nonetheless, if each of us passes along the word, we can grow, and if we grow, we can accomplish more in the areas below.
- 2) Diffusion and influence of *The Kingbird*: Too few ornithologists, in and out of New York, use our journal. It is certainly one of the best of the state ornithological publications in the nation, and we should publicize it wherever and whenever we can. It should be in many local libraries, college libraries, as well as reaching more individuals.
- 3) Research: I plan to continue and expand the census of Great Blue Heron nesting sites; to continue the Mid-winter Waterfowl Census; and to encourage each club to conduct at least one breeding bird count each year in one of the best areas within their jurisdiction. Individual members in search of work suitable to their ability and ambition are urged to contact the Research and Publications Committee for suggestions.
- 4) Conservation: The general public remains ignorant of the inter-locking relationships of all natural resources. Even professionals still speak of wildlife conservation or water conservation or soil conservation, as though each existed independent of the others. The Federation, through its Conservation Committee, must continue to do its part in this job of public education, while trying to exert our influence in particular cases which affect our interests.

Being a birdwatcher is exciting. Let's all get excited about making our Federation bigger, better and more influential in 1966.

*Allen H. Benton*

## SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE HAWK MIGRATION AT DERBY HILL

JOHN R. HAUGH

The tendency for hawks to follow certain flyways during their migration has been known for some time. Many of the earliest discoveries and studies of migration flyways in North America occurred along the Atlantic Coast or along near-by mountain ridges at such places as the southern shore of Connecticut (Trowbridge, 1895), Fisher's Island, New York (Ferguson and Ferguson, 1922), Cape May, New Jersey (Allen and Peterson, 1936), and Hawk Mountain, Pennsylvania (Poole, 1934). Similar discoveries soon followed at such places as Point Pelee, Ontario; Cedar Grove, Wisconsin; Duluth, Minnesota; Detroit, Michigan; Hawk Cliff (near Port Stanley, Ontario); Toronto, Ontario; the mountains of Tennessee; and along the southern shores of Lake Superior and Lake Ontario.

The majority of these locations are observation points for fall hawk migrations. The exceptions are Cedar Grove, Duluth, and along the southern shores of Lake Ontario and Lake Superior. The spring movements of hawks at Cedar Grove and Duluth are small in comparison to the flights there in the fall (personal communication). The movement along the southern shore of Lake Ontario is the largest known spring movement of hawks north of Central America (little information is available on the spring flyway along Lake Superior).

Eaton (1904) was among the first to indicate the possibility of a major hawk migration route along the southern shore of Lake Ontario, especially in the Rochester area. He states:

"First regarding the yearly migration of hawks, it has been confirmed that an incredible number of these birds pass each spring along the southern shore of Lake Ontario, and move toward the east over the country south of the lake, evidently making their way around its eastern end, toward the north. The height of the migration occurs during the latter part of April and the first week in May. The birds are mostly Sharp-shinned and Broad-winged Hawks. A sprinkling of Marsh and Pigeon Hawks is always present, but surprisingly few of the Cooper's Hawk when its general abundance in many parts of the State is considered. It also seems unusual, at a time when Red-tailed and Red-shouldered Hawks are nesting in western New York, to see many of these species also, soaring high in the air and wheeling toward the east."

Aware of Eaton's observations and the existence of locations for observing the hawk flight further west, in 1955 F. G. Scheider and H. Van

Beurden located a point for observing this migration on the southeastern corner of the lake. This location is known as Derby Hill.

Realizing the value of Derby Hill as a study area for this migration, and that the area was rapidly being lost, as summer homes and cottages were constructed, in 1964 Syracuse University, in conjunction with the Nature Conservancy, purchased much of the remaining land on the hill as well as a wooded area lying to the east of the hill.

Derby Hill is a ridge which extends southward from the corner of the lake in a direction slightly east of south. The northern end of the ridge is a bluff which overlooks the southeastern corner of the lake as well as the surrounding lowlands to the west and east. The view to the south along the crest of the hill is moderately good, but a series of hedgerows sometimes obstructs the view of low-flying birds.

Birds approach Derby Hill from the west and are usually first observed as they loft over a low ridge which parallels Derby Hill but which is lower and does not extend to the lake (see Fig. 1). West of this second ridge the lake plain stretches unbroken for many miles; therefore, approaching birds do not have to rise to fly over hills until they encounter the ridge west of Derby. Hawks frequently pause in this area and soar to gain altitude. For this reason they are often in sight for several minutes before they actually pass over Derby Hill.

Although Derby Hill is especially well known for its hawk flights, many other birds also migrate along the shore in this area. Large numbers of Icterids, Swallows, Crows, Blue Jays, Robins, White-breasted Nuthatches, Black-capped Chickadees, Yellow-shafted Flickers and Starlings (as well as other species in lesser numbers) are seen during the spring migration period.

Hawks advancing as a wave from the southwest to the northeast, through Ohio, Pennsylvania and Western New York, encounter the southern shore of Lake Erie and the western part of Lake Ontario which form somewhat of a natural barrier to these birds for they are reluctant to cross large bodies of water where air currents are usually unfavorable. Instead they move easterly along the southern shores of these lakes. As this flight continues eastward, the number of migrants increases as additional birds moving northward through Central New York encounter Lake Ontario and join the flight. The advantage of observing the hawk flight at Derby Hill is therefore obvious, for here at the eastern end of the southern shore the number of migrants is greatest.

The hawk migration at Derby Hill was studied by the author during the springs of 1963 and 1964. The following discussions are based mainly on data obtained during those periods. Less intensive observations were made in 1965, but since they were not made by the author, these observations are not considered in the discussion below. However, data from all three years are included in the table at the end of this paper.

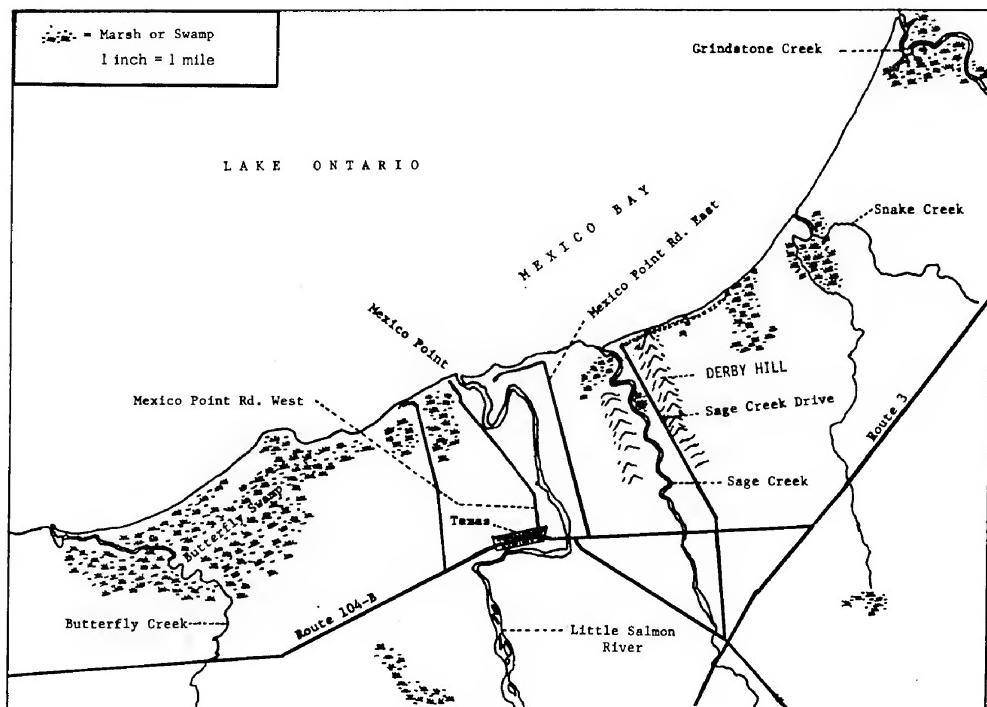


FIGURE 1

*Map of the Derby Hill area. Notice the location of Derby Hill near the corner of the lake, the hill paralleling Derby Hill to the west, and the lack of any other hills along the lake shore in the area. (See text). (Redrawn from U. S. Geological Survey topographic map).*

Observations were made on forty-five days in 1963, mainly on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays between March 7 and May 14. In 1964 observations were made on sixty-six days between February 25 and May 15, and, once the hawks began to migrate, the only days not covered were those on which inclement weather conditions, such as snow, rain, or high adverse winds, probably prevented the hawks from flying. Notes were kept not only on the species composing the flights, but also on the characteristic patterns of flight exhibited by different birds, direction and speed of wind, temperature, cloud cover, and barometric pressure.

This paper considers the characteristic patterns of flight employed by various species and discusses some aspects of their behavior during migration. Tables giving the actual counts of hawks made during 1963,

1964, and 1965 are also included. The times of migration and effects of the various weather phenomena on the migration will be considered elsewhere (*Wilson Bulletin*, in Press).

Falconiformes of 16 different species were observed during the study. Listed in order, starting with the species occurring in greatest numbers, they were: Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*), Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus*), Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*), Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*), Rough-legged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus*), Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*), Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*), Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*), Merlin (*Falco columbarius*), Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), Peregrine (*Falco peregrinus*), and Gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*).

The migration at Derby Hill begins with Red-tailed Hawks, Red-shouldered Hawks, and Goshawks in early March and is essentially over by the end of May when occasionally a few immature Broad-winged Hawks may still pass.

#### Characteristic Types of Flight During Spring Migration

Accipitrine Hawks (Goshawk, Cooper's Hawk, and Sharp-shinned Hawk) usually are thought to employ a flight style consisting of several flaps followed by a short glide. This type of flight is usually utilized by these birds as they migrate around the corner of the lake. Frequently they fly very low. When moderate southerly winds tend to push them toward the lake, the Accipiters often fly over the hill only a few feet (and sometimes less than a foot) above the grass.

Although they generally employ a flapping flight, Accipiters are not uncommonly observed soaring on rising currents of air much the same as Buteos. This is especially true in April and May on days when surface winds are relatively light and the earth's surface is warmed sufficiently by the sun to create thermal activity. On such days the flapping flight of the hawks in the morning migration is abandoned as the ground warms. Individuals are observed soaring and occasionally flapping while circling over the woods to the west and ascending on rising air. Sometimes after gaining sufficient altitude, they may begin a more typical flapping flight along the shore of the lake, gradually descending, until another thermal can be found and utilized.

At times Goshawks (and occasionally Cooper's Hawks) may employ a steady "pumping" flight with deep wing beats. This type of flight has usually been observed late in the afternoon or when the daily migration was about over. It almost seems as if these birds are anxious to migrate as far as possible before they are forced to stop for the night.

Falcons are usually more direct in their flight as they approach from the west. Steadily flapping, they follow the shore rather closely and deviate little from this flight path even when northerly winds tend to push other species inland. Sometimes, however, Falcons move out over the lake as they approach the corner, more or less taking a short cut rather than following the slightly longer route along the beach. Occasionally Rough-legged Hawks also take this short cut over the corner of the lake.

Buteos, Ospreys, Eagles, Harriers, and Vultures are all more dependent on soaring during migration than are Falcons and Accipiters. At times they have been observed to fly over a mile without ever flapping their wings as they appear in the west, pass over the hill, and disappear in the east. However in March or at other times early in the day when the ground is still cold and there are few rising air currents, these "soaring birds" have all been observed to flap rather steadily as they fly along the shore of the lake. This flapping flight is especially prominent in Red-shouldered Hawks, which migrate in large numbers during the latter half of March when snow frequently still covers the ground. During days when much flapping flight is required, it is not uncommon to observe Red-shouldered Hawks and Red-tailed Hawks landing in trees for short lengths of time before continuing their flight.

With winds from a southerly direction, Harriers frequently turn south and fly along the ridge which parallels Derby Hill to the west. At such times they are flying into the wind but seem to be utilizing updrafts which are created along this ridge by the wind. After flying a mile or so inland, they may allow themselves to drift with the wind, thus moving in a northeasterly direction toward the corner of the lake. In general, Harriers seem to be weaker flying birds than the other species and more often take advantage of air currents created by topographical features.

Buteos have frequently been observed to use a gliding flight, either exclusively or in combination with soaring and flapping. After gaining altitude on a rising air current they often glide in an easterly direction, sometimes with wings partially folded, until again beginning to soar on another rising mass of air.

Cold fronts advancing rapidly from the west sometimes create conditions which enable Buteos to partially fold their wings and glide as they are pushed toward the east by strong westerly winds in back of the front while at the same time being held aloft by rising air currents in the warm air immediately in advance of the front. Large numbers of hawks frequently fly in this narrow zone of "push and lift", all of them, of course, being at the same altitude and gliding in the same way, much as a group of surf board specialists ride an advancing ocean wave. Only soaring species of hawks such as Buteos have been observed to glide in front of a cold front in this way.

## Gregarious Behavior in Migrating Hawks

It is generally known that Broad-winged Hawks tend to be gregarious during migration, to migrate in flocks sometimes numbering several hundred individuals. This behavior among other hawks is not so obvious. Nevertheless, at Derby Hill it has been noted that whenever a Sharp-shinned Hawk is seen approaching the hill, careful observation often reveals several other hawks of this species approaching. Unlike the Broad-winged Hawks, which are usually closely grouped, Sharp-shinned Hawks tend to spread out laterally so as to all pass over the hill at about the same time but at various distances from the lake. Three to six birds most commonly are involved in these groups. The distance separating individuals varies considerably, but probably averages between 50 and 100 feet.

Other species of hawks also exhibit some evidence of gregarious behavior during migration. This seems to be true of Kestrels, but to a lesser extent than with Sharp-shinned Hawks. Among soaring species, in addition to Broad-winged Hawks, Turkey Vultures are also gregarious. There also seems to be a tendency for Eagles to associate together during migration. Several times when two or three Eagles were observed in one day, all appeared within a minute or two of each other. These birds need not be of the same species; there may be any combination of Bald Eagles and Golden Eagles, either immature or adult. When an Eagle is observed during migration it is always a good idea to search quickly in other directions, for often another Eagle may be passing a few hundred feet away. Other soaring hawks seem to exhibit gregariousness, but further investigation is needed for the more important factor here may be a favorable air current which several hawks have found individually, and therefore they may be associated together simply as a matter of convenience. As many as six different species of hawks have been observed soaring together on a favorable air current. Such a group may be composed of any combination of the commoner hawks which migrate past the hill.

In contrast to soaring flight which enables Falcons, Accipiters, and typically soaring species to fly together, flapping flight tends to limit association of different hawks during migration. Thus, although Cooper's Hawks may be observed flying with Sharp-shinned Hawks, and Red-shouldered Hawks flying with Red-tailed Hawks, Sharp-shinned Hawks and Cooper's Hawks do not associate with Red-tailed Hawks and Red-shouldered Hawks when flapping flight is being utilized to migrate. The explanation is obvious, for under such conditions Accipiters and Buteos travel at different speeds and Buteos often pause to soar briefly between periods of flapping.

Although there is considerable interspecific and intraspecific association during migration, little aggressive behavior has been observed among migrating hawks. Apparently territoriality is either weakly developed at this time or is largely suppressed by the migratory urge. Occasionally

hawks of the same species or hawks of different species have been observed to stop in the same tree. At such times these birds seem largely to ignore each other.

### Summary

In summary, observations made during the springs of 1963 and 1964 enable certain conclusions to be drawn regarding the behavior of hawks during migration:

(1) Although certain species of hawks generally seem to employ a particular type of flight, during migration both soaring and flapping flight are at times used by all species. Accipiters and Falcons depend more on flapping flight while other species more often are observed soaring.

(2) Gliding flight is sometimes used by soaring species, especially Buteos. This type of flight is observed most frequently as hawks move from one thermal to another or when hawks are riding the leading edge of a cold front.

(3) Broad-winged Hawks, Turkey Vultures, and Sharp-shinned Hawks are intraspecifically gregarious during migration. Eagles show obvious gregariousness which may be intraspecific or interspecific. Although other species show signs of intraspecific gregariousness, additional investigation is needed before definite conclusions can be reached.

(4) All common species of hawks have at times been observed to show interspecific association while using soaring flight to migrate. To what extent this is gregarious behavior is not known. It may largely be a matter of convenience, wherein many hawks utilize a particularly favorable air current. Flapping flight limits the interspecific association of some species, probably chiefly because of different speeds of forward movement.

(5) Hawks show little aggressive behavior during spring migration.

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### Acknowledgments

I would like to thank Dr. F. G. Scheider, Dr. Walter Spofford, Dr. Sally Spofford, and Miss Margaret Rusk for critically reading a previous draft of this paper. I am also grateful to Mrs. Jean Propst for help with field observations at Derby Hill. In addition, I would like to thank Dr. Thomas Cade for his help and encouragement during this study, and especially for the many days which he spent helping with the observations at Derby Hill.

Our work at Derby Hill has been supported by Public Health Service Graduate Training Grant 5T1 GM 1016-03 and National Science Foundation Grant G-21912.

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**TABLE I**  
**HAWK COUNTS AT DERBY HILL IN 1963, 1964, and 1965**

Symbols:	Totals:	1963	1964	1965
C — Cooper's Hawk.....	116	133	70	
SS — Sharp-shinned Hawk.....	1,335	2,289	1,409	
G — Goshawk.....	81	53	42	
P — Peregrine.....	0	4	4	
M — Merlin.....	3	19	5	
K — Kestrel.....	226	511	165	
O — Osprey.....	53	224	101	
H — Harrier.....	235	370	191	
RS — Red-shouldered Hawk.....	867	492	309	
RT — Red-tailed Hawk.....	971	1,133	789	
RL — Rough-legged Hawk.....	193	118	116	
BW — Broad-winged Hawk.....	7,289	21,542	7,154	
GE — Golden Eagle.....	2	9	3	
BE — Bald Eagle.....	2	11	7	
TV — Turkey Vulture.....	30	77	40	
UID — Unidentified Hawks.....	346*	264	126	
Grand Totals:.....	11,749*	27,249	10,531	

\* Includes one Gyrfalcon

**1963 HAWK COUNTS DERBY HILL**

	Date	C	SS	G	P	M	K	O	H	RT	RS	RL	BW	GE	BE	TV	UID	Daily Total
March	16	11	2	8	0	0	11	0	7	73	22	11	0	0	0	0	0	145
	17	12	3	10	0	0	10	0	22	126	174	31	0	0	1	0	0	389
	19	4	0	2	0	0	2	0	4	21	34	5	0	0	0	0	14	86
	21	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	4	2	1	4	0	1	0	0	1	14
	23	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	7	9	16	6	0	0	0	0	6	48
	24	4	0	9	0	0	14	0	13	36	97	32	0	0	0	0	0	205
	25	3	7	1	0	0	5	0	7	3	75	6	0	0	0	0	2	109
	26	13	47	8	0	0	38	0	26	115	203	9	0	0	1	0	22	482
	27	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	8	65	65	8	0	0	0	0	39	192
	28	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	2	28	50	5	0	0	0	0	15	108
	29	5	51	4	0	0	45	1	15	53	99	13	0	0	0	0	8	294
	30	2	7	1	0	0	11	0	9	11	1	5	0	0	0	2	0	49
	31	0	4	1	0	0	1	0	3	4	4	2	0	0	0	1	4	24
13	April	2	4	2	2	0	0	6	0	7	13	2	0	0	0	0	2	38
	4	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	7
	6	9	6	7	0	0	6	0	5	48	1	4	1	0	0	9	14	110
	7	2	9	6	0	1	4	0	3	19	3	9	0	0	0	1	9*	66
	9	1	6	0	0	0	5	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
	12	2	12	0	0	0	7	1	3	7	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	38
	13	1	21	0	0	0	3	2	9	15	4	13	0	0	0	1	5	74
	14	2	20	0	0	0	7	0	5	45	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	82
	16	0	16	3	0	0	7	2	5	79	0	6	1	0	0	1	57	177
	17	13	232	5	0	1	21	0	4	120	1	4	52	0	0	7	112	572
	19	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	3	10	2	1	6	0	0	2	1	29
	20	3	60	0	0	0	4	8	1	7	0	2	474	0	0	0	14	587
	21	5	191	2	0	0	1	4	16	11	7	3	1651	0	0	2	3	1896
	25	7	126	0	0	1	1	5	8	22	3	4	644	0	0	0	3	824
	26	0	52	0	0	0	3	5	4	12	0	0	144	1	0	0	2	223
	27	2	32	0	0	0	2	3	2	2	0	1	135	0	0	0	4	183
	28	1	42	0	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	58
	29	0	48	0	0	0	0	6	2	6	0	0	1050	0	0	2	3	1117
	30	4	288	1	0	0	0	4	3	0	3	2878	0	0	0	0	2	3183

	Date	C	SS	G	P	M	K	O	H	RT	RS	RL	BW	GE	BE	TV	UID	Daily Total
May	2	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	
	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	14	
	4	3	20	0	0	0	1	7	4	0	0	0	212	1	0	0	248	
	5	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	
	8	1	3	0	0	0	0	3	4	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	23	
	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	

\* One gyrfalcon included.

NOTE: One golden eagle questionable.

Six bald eagles observed. Probably only four birds as two may have been observed twice.

Days with 5 or less hawks total: March—7(2): 1H, 1RL; 9(0); 10(4): 3RT, 1RL; 12(1): 1 RT; 14(0). April—3(1): 1RS; 11(2): 1RT, 1RL

#### 1964 HAWK COUNTS DERBY HILL

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	Date	C	SS	G	P	M	K	O	H	RT	RS	RL	BW	GE	BE	TV	UID	Daily Total
March	3	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	14
	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	9
	5	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4
	7	1	2	6	0	0	1	0	1	35	2	15	0	0	1*	0	15	79
	13	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	8	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	18
	14	1	0	3	0	0	8	0	1	2	2	7	0	0	0	0	0	24
	15	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	13	2	2	0	0	0	0	5	26
	20	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	11
	21	8	1	0	0	0	13	0	16	10	43	7	0	0	0	0	2	100
	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	3	11
April	23	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	8	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	17
	24	13	21	3	0	0	16	0	19	93	130	6	0	1	0	0	3	305
	26	0	1	1	0	0	11	0	3	6	10	1	0	0	0	0	0	33
	28	27	22	0	0	0	36	0	59	44	198	16	0	0	0	0	3	405
	29	3	0	1	0	0	2	0	11	7	10	1	0	0	0	0	6	41

Date	C	SS	G	P	M	K	O	H	RT	RS	RL	BW	GE	BE	TV	UID	Daily Total
April	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	76	42	5	0	0	0	1	7
	2	6	28	5	0	1	42	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	232
	5	4	2	0	1	0	2	0	3	9	5	5	0	0	1	6	38
	6	0	0	0	0	0	32	0	11	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	48
	7	6	95	3	0	3	117	1	71	117	6	9	0	0	2	3	433
	8	0	1	0	0	0	8	0	2	43	1	0	0	1	1	12	69
	10	2	5	1	0	1	2	0	7	32	0	1	20	0	0	12	22
	11	5	1	1	0	1	5	1	5	25	2	3	24	0	0	0	105
	12	10	400	3	0	1	63	2	20	205	3	5	1	0	0	0	41
	13	4	363	1	0	1	66	10	27	167	2	6	2	0	0	0	715
	14	1	54	3	0	0	1	1	0	3	0	1	0	0	2	35	101
	15	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	11
	16	1	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	3	0	0	0	27
	17	2	59	1	0	0	1	9	1	54	3	2	61	0	0	2	14
	18	0	8	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	210
	19	1	35	0	0	1	1	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	5
	21	4	161	3	0	3	12	9	9	11	0	0	14	0	0	1	227
	22	4	150	0	0	2	6	3	9	8	1	1	177	0	0	1	0
	23	4	70	0	0	1	1	28	5	14	1	1	8097	1	1	13	362
	24	4	45	0	0	1	3	9	1	3	0	0	141	0	1	1	8237
	25	1	33	0	0	0	4	10	10	7	0	0	6711	0	1	6	208
	26	8	191	0	2	2	21	37	22	43	2	1	978	1	1	5	6783
	27	2	170	0	1	0	6	12	9	13	1	2	855	2	0	5	1314
	28	0	24	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	78	0	0	0	1091
	29	0	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	56	0	0	0	166
	30	0	12	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	11	0	0	0	77
																0	25
May	2	5	103	0	0	0	3	24	0	19	0	0	2275	1	1	1	0
	3	1	10	0	0	0	0	49	0	1	0	0	1757	0	0	1	2432
	4	0	152	0	0	0	4	9	11	3	0	0	124	0	0	2	1819
	6	1	30	0	0	0	5	14	2	8	3	0	150	2	1	0	309
	15	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	216
																14	

\* Observed at Oswego, New York.

Days with 5 or less hawks total: February—25(5); 1G, 4RT; 28(1); 1G; 29(0). March—1(1); 1RL; 2(0); 8(1); 1H; 9(1); 1BE; 10(0); 11(3); 2RT, 1RL; 12(2); 2RL; 16(0); 17(4); 2H, 1RT, IRS; 18(0); 19(2); 1 RS, 1RS, 3RT; 30(3); 3RT; 31(4); 1RS, 3UID. April—3(0); 1SS, 1K, 1RT, IRL; 19(0). May—1(1); 1 SS.

1965 HAWK COUNTS AT DERBY HILL

	Date	C	SS	G	P	M	K	O	H	RT	RS	RL	BW	GE	BE	TV	UID	Daily Total
March	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	10
	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	10
	6	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	15
	17	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	7	3	3	0	0	0	0	1	16
	18	0	0	3	0	0	0	4	0	21	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	31
	28	0	0	6	0	0	0	3	0	9	3	8	4	0	0	0	1	34
	31	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	4	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	18
April	1	20	3	4	0	0	4	0	10	64	84	8	0	0	0	0	15	212
	4	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	2	30	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	45
	7	11	191	1	0	0	60	1	74	86	63	26	0	0	0	6	4	523
	8	9	39	2	0	0	22	0	25	133	98	17	1	0	1	4	16	367
	10	0	10	4	0	0	3	2	2	49	3	2	0	0	0	2	17	94
	14	3	41	3	0	1	2	1	3	55	4	1	0	0	0	3	0	117
	15	1	175	0	0	0	10	0	6	11	10	6	0	0	0	1	0	220
May	20	1	110	1	0	2	11	5	10	87	1	3	281	0	1	0	16	529
	21	2	328	0	0	0	19	9	1	66	1	3	1129	1	2	4	12	1577
	25	5	185	3	2	2	8	15	15	66	4	14	2282	0	1	6	0	2608
	26	3	86	0	0	0	2	4	7	0	0	5	547	0	0	0	16	670
	28	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	111	0	0	0	0	115
	29	10	46	0	1	0	3	12	7	54	9	13	1544	1	0	10	0	1710
	30	0	19	1	0	0	2	7	5	4	0	0	267	0	0	0	4	309

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Days with 5 or less hawks total: March—9(0); 11(5): 1G, 4RT; 13(0); 16(1): 1H. April—16(5): 1SS, 1 Osprey, 3RT; 27 (1): 1 Osprey

# 1965 FALL SHOREBIRD MIGRATION IN CENTRAL NEW YORK

FRITZ SCHEIDER

How very short is summer! The last flocks of natty Ruddy Turnstones surge toward their tundra hills in early June, and by July 1 the returning tide of shorebirds has begun. Yet the protracted autumnal shorebird migration must not be considered a unitary thing. The double peak pattern of fall shorebird numbers alluded to in previous articles (Scheider, F. G. *Kingbird* 10(4): 159, 1960 and *Kingbird* 15(1): 15, 1965) and regional reports has this season achieved a modest documentation locally; from this, emerge a few crumbs of pattern and fact, and a host of speculations (see Ruddy Turnstone, Golden Plover, Baird's Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs). The chronology of arrival and departure dates of both adult and immature birds can be readily established per year; a decade of observations would probably pinpoint these data very narrowly, but the major information desired would still not be obtained. The documentation desired revolves around the timing of the *peak* passage of the two general age groups of shorebirds (adults v. immatures or "birds of the year"). Two major facts of distribution affect data collecting: numbers of shorebirds and, therefore, their local distribution depend on suitable habitat available at the appropriate time; and the mobility of these world travelers makes movement from one area to another, e.g. Sandy Pond to Onondaga Lake, a trifle. Hence, the small number of, say, Short-billed Dowitchers seen locally each fall is no indication of the total numbers of the population or even of the population utilizing this inland migration route. But of those few birds that do migrate locally one should be able to ascertain the proportion of adults to immatures and thereby establish whether, numbers or no, a reproducible population sequence regularly occurs.

*Variations in habitat:* The protracted four-year drought, which finally ended in late September, dried out most local ponds and marshes. Weeds grew rankly and the numerous mud-rimmed ponds characteristic of late summer were generally unavailable. The drawdown at Otisco Lake, however, created acres of mudflats. Similarly, low water conditions in the Main Pool at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge produced a muddy scolopacine paradise until early August when the Storage Pool's impounded water was released to the Main Pool, obliterating its extensive flats but engendering an even larger array of mudflats, silt bars, and shallow pools at the Storage Pool. The Lake Ontario shore, normally a rich shorebird area both in numbers and species, proved disappointing thru most of the fall. The lake began to slowly rise in mid-June and, by early August, only the outer beaches had open flats of any extent; except during a moon-eye kill in late July, these were usually devoid of shorebird food and heavily infested with people. The inner edges of the Sandy Pond dunes have become so extensively grown to weeds that less than 300 yards of open sand-mud shoreline are available over the 3½ mile length. ElDorado Beach in Region 6 near Henderson also suffered change; the water-edge weed growth, normally held in check by cattle pastured there, grew waist-high in the absence of these bovine lawnmowers this year.

The artificial short-grass prairie at the Syracuse Airport had tremendous variation; September rains and a non-mowing policy in late July and August rendered large areas of grassy lawns too vegetated for regular use by Golden Plover, Killdeer, and Pectoral Sandpiper. However, as soon as any one area was cropped, these species came in quickly and, where cropping was regular, persisted. The Onondaga Lake shore flats proved the most available (to birders) and productive area locally, particularly the extensive black mudflats at the southern end, known with Ruff affection as "Old Stinky." Sylvan and Verona Beaches had minimal shore area exposed and tremendous human use, precluding high tallies. In view of these variations in habitat, the majority negative, it is no surprise that numbers of shorebirds seemed to be

reduced; variety, however, was excellent, perhaps because of the intensive and frequent checking of local areas.

*Numbers Present:* The 1965 fall flight saw no species, except possibly Killdeer, Semipalmated Sandpiper, and Stilt Sandpiper in unusual abundance. Rather, the birds were widely scattered at the various areas of available habitat with greatest numbers at the more choice places (Montezuma NWR in Region 3 and ElDorado Beach in Region 6). Certain species, however, did stand out as being remarkably scarce, particularly when viewed with the 1964 fall figures in mind. Common Snipe were astonishingly scarce—maximum for Region 5 was only ten and on just one day! Greater Yellowlegs also were very scarce, and the tallies on Dunlin along Lake Ontario and at Sylvan and Verona Beaches were in the ten-25/day range, quite low for this often common late migrant. Why these three species, with markedly different breeding habitats (bog, muskeg, and tundra respectively), should all be low is quite hard to fathom. Or might it be coincidence?

*Daily Variation in Numbers and Species:* Another aspect to be considered is day-to-day or even in-the-day turnover of individuals of the various species. A corollary of contradiction often paralleled the frequent checking, as counts of individuals and species would vary remarkably from hour to hour in the day. This variability, bane of data collecting, was most obvious at Syracuse Airport and Onondaga Lake where 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM counts were often worlds apart in both species and numbers of each. Probably the same thing is true at Sandy Pond Inlet and ElDorado Beach but the variability there does not achieve documentation. Similar day-to-day and diurnal variation can almost certainly be demonstrated at Braddock's Bay near Rochester, an area which has the Ontario effect of both migration direction and shoreline shifting of loitering birds. Contrariwise, certain individual shorebirds, identifiable by virtue of quirks of plumage or accidental marking, such as oiling, or by their rarity, would frequent certain places for days (e.g. the adult Hudsonian Godwits on Onondaga Lake and at Montezuma NWR, the Wilson's Phalarope there, the two Knots at Sylvan Beach) despite what were apparently major shifts in shorebird numbers. Whatever change of wind or passage of a front shifted the many Onondaga Lake "peep" and Pectorals and Yellowlegs left the Hudsonian Godwit there quite unmoved.

*Anomalies and Speculations:* Certain anomalies of the shorebird migration appear in sharper focus with each year of observation. Each August one or two spring-plumaged Dunlin appear three to four weeks before the first winter-plumaged birds arrive at ElDorado Beach or Sandy Pond Inlet. Are these early birds unsuccessful breeders which have left the Arctic tundra prior to molt or are they birds that have summered out of the Arctic and are simply wandering about? Also in almost any August one can find apparently full winter-plumaged (?) post-breeding) adult White-rumped Sandpipers in larger collections of "peep" Sandpipers along Lake Ontario. Yet in this species, molt of body plumage is not supposed to occur until late August, September, and October (Bent, A. C. *Life Histories of N. American Shorebirds*, Smithsonian Inst., U.S. Nat. Mus. Bulletins 142-1927 and 146-1929). I cannot recall ever seeing an adult fall White-rumped Sandpiper in this area with traces of spring plumage, and years of back notes do not clarify this matter. What part of the population of White-rumped Sandpipers do these birds represent? Where do they come from? Have they bred in the recently terminated Arctic summer? Or are they wandering, non-breeding birds that have made the trip for practice but not for procreation? Certainly the later birds—late September thru early November—are almost entirely immature birds and obviously so—gray backs and wing-coverts with each feather delicately edged in silver-buff, rusty scapulars with pale buff trim, blurred breast marks, dark brown-black legs, and inordinately tame, even for "peep" shorebirds. But what and wherefore are those winter-plumaged adult birds of the August flocks?

Similarly, Baird's Sandpiper data shows that the adult is a very scarce bird in central New York with an adult to immature ratio of one:30-40; the few adults present are late July and early August birds. Are these Arctic returnees of an attempted but unsuccessful breeding season or are they possibly a counterpart of the early Dunlin or of those winter-plumaged White-rumped Sandpipers?

The local, i.e. Lake Ontario, distribution of the three maritime shorebirds we get presents equally abundant material for speculation. The late October-thru-November records of Purple Sandpiper and Red Phalarope are largely immature birds. Both species are remarkably tame and allow inspection at such close range that details of the wing, back, and flank plumage and the bill markings can be studied carefully. It is my opinion that these few individuals represent lingering birds, usually immatures—and possibly sick ones at that, which tarry in the southern reaches of Hudson and James Bays and are forced to overland migration by the freeze-up of the Arctic areas of the northern half of Hudson Bay. However, Northern Phalaropes, a species in which the time and sequence of exodus from the Arctic is known (Snyder, L. L. *Arctic Birds of Canada*, Univ. of Toronto Press, 1957), probably represent low Arctic, i.e. Hudson Bay-James Bay breeders that regularly traverse the interior on their autumnal passage to the sea. Regularly the flight is much, much earlier than the Red Phalaropes' (usually 15 August to 1 October for Northern, usually 5 October to 30 November for Red) and the flight of Northern Phalaropes includes both adults and immatures (Witherby, H. F. et al *The Handbook of British Birds*, Vol. V, H. F. & G. Witherby, LTD. 1938) and at nearly the same time.

Over the past decade, the Hudsonian Godwit has been observed so regularly each fall that observers now count on seeing the bird at least once/season in the area. Initially they were usually noted in late September thru mid-October and were regularly immature birds. Now one can see them as early as mid-July (cf Hudsonian Godwit below) and individuals may stay into late October if the weather remains mild. Oddly enough, the Whimbrel, the other large Arctic wader one might see locally, appears to be increasingly scarce and one feels lucky if one/fall is noted.

The last of the speculations revolves around the now famous Onondaga Lake Ruffs. Dr. D. B. Peakall (*Wilson Bulletin* 77: #3, Sept 1965) has suggested that the Ruff may be breeding in North America and the flurry of individuals observed at Onondaga Lake, including carefully observed immatures, supports this inference. Why some five different Ruffs, including immatures, should select a small and polluted crescent of graceless mud at an inland locality *regularly* is beyond my understanding. The concentration of observers, I feel, has little to do with the numbers of Ruffs observed for certainly better areas such as ElDorado Beach and Montezuma NWR have virtually as thorough coverage and the number of Ruffs tallied is markedly less. Why is Onondaga Lake so graced with Ruffs? This remains quite unexplained. And the next question is—"When will a spring Ruff be found?"

Fall migration data is summarized below by species.

Abbreviations: Airpt—Syracuse Airport; EDB—ElDorado Beach in Region 6; imm—immature, L—Lake; max—maximum; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; Onon—Onondaga; SB, VB—Sylvan and Verona Beaches; SP—Sandy Pond.

PIPING PLOVER: none! SEMIPALMATED PLOVER: first July 1, one, Onon L; max 50 July 31 SP, and 36 Aug 26 Onon L; last, two Nov 5 Onon L. At MNWR—first July 1, three; peak counts 45 July 28, 34 Sep 6, 65 Sep 14, 35 Sep 15; last Nov 2. KILLDEER: buildup at Onon L apparent by July 10; flocks 30-50 thru July and Aug; max 260 Airpt Sep 16; some 125 Aug 26 EDB; MNWR max 100 Aug 18; last, one Nov 20 Onon L. GOLDEN PLOVER: adults arrived Aug 17, Airpt; max 105 Airpt with quick decline thru mid-Sep; last, two imm Nov 14, Airpt, a record late date. At MNWR—first Aug 14; max 71 Sep 6; Oct tallies ten-15/day; last Nov 6

(late). BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER: first migrants Aug 10 SB, VB; tallies very low (one-eight/day) thru Sep, but widely reported (Airpt, Otisco L, etc.); last Nov 11, an imm at SP. At MNWR—first Aug 13 but peak figures of ten-14/day, all imm, not reached til late Oct; last, one Nov 14. RUDDY TURNSTONE: first July 31 SP; some six-15/day thru first two weeks of Aug, primarily from Onon L, SB, VB; max 55, all adults (see chart) Aug 19 EDB; Sep and Oct, scarce (two-three/day); last Oct 12 Onon L and MNWR.

AMER. WOODCOCK: one Nov 21, Nine Mile Point near Scriba, Oswego Co, is late. COMMON SNIPE: extremely scarce all fall; first migrants July 25 Howland's Island; counts of one-four/day thereafter with max ten in mid-Oct at Howland's Island; last, one Nov 18 Clay Swamp. At MNWR the picture was somewhat brighter —26 July 18 (probably local birds); peaks 17 Sep 29 and 31 Oct 31; last Nov 13. WHIMBREL: scarce, one report only, two SB in mid-July (fide DWA). UPLAND PLOVER: two July 5 Airpt; up to 19 there July 6, with max 94 Aug 25; by early Sep most had left. Only two-eight/day until last Sep 10, three. SPOTTED SANDPIPER: 75 plus July 8 Onon L and 78 July 4 MNWR show how early flocking and migration occur; by mid-July Onon L tallies had fallen to 50/day, Aug counts were 20/day; four-six/day thru first third of Sep, one-two/day to Sep 21; last Oct 26, one, SB, VB (very late). SOLITARY SANDPIPER: first July 1 Morrisville and July 5 Camillus; scarce, max six (all imm) Sep 17 Otisco L; scarce even at MNWR, no count exceeding four/day; last Oct 2, an imm, Onon L. GREATER YELLOWLEGS: first July 3, one Onon L; very scarce thru July and Aug. Sep numbers extremely low with max nine Sep 21–24 Onon L; at MNWR, scarce though conditions seemed excellent, all counts low, 12–14/day Oct 3–31; last one Nov. 13, a bit early, Howland's Island. LESSER YELLOWLEGS: first July 1, 12 Onon L and two MNWR; see chart for numbers pattern; last Oct 31, an injured bird, SB. At MNWR—176 July 31, quite impressive; Aug and Sep 25–40/day; last Oct 12, very early. KNOT: first July 17, one Onon L; one-two/day then to Sep 25, last date; numbers too small to suggest age sequence, but all personally observed Sep birds seemed to be imm.

PURPLE SANDPIPER: only record, one imm Oct 30–31, Fair Haven Beach State Park breakwater (M. S. Rusk). PECTORAL SANDPIPER: first July 1, one Onon L; July and Aug tallies low (three-30/day); in Sep a heavy flight (? imm); at Onon L 24 on Sep 26, 30 Sep 27, 40 Sep 28; max tallies from Otisco L in this period also, e.g. 41 Oct 3; last Oct 29, four Onon L. At MNWR major numbers not in until early Sep with 94 Sep 6, and 25-29/day thru Sep and first week Oct; thru Oct two-12/day; last Nov 14, seven (very late). WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER: first Aug 1, one SB, VB; some eight adults, all in winter plumage, Aug 19 EDB; Sep numbers very low, one-two/day until Sep 28 when imm began to augment them; six-eight/day thru Oct (virtually all imm); last, an imm, Nov 4 SP. At MNWR—first Aug 11 with buildup in numbers to six-eight/day not until last third of Sep; late Oct counts six-13/day (? all imm); last, one Nov 14. BAIRD'S SANDPIPER: only two adults reported all fall—one July 31 SP and one Aug 19–20 Airpt; Aug 26–Sep 16, two-11 imm/day with best tallies from EDB, SP and Onon L; very scarce at SB, VB (reason?); last, an imm Oct 28 Onon L. At MNWR—first Aug 25, two; max 13, Sep 17 and 18; late Sep and early Oct counts two-four/day; last, one Nov 14, quite late. LEAST SANDPIPER: first July 1, two Onon L; see chart for distribution of adults/imm and numbers; last Oct 16, an imm Onon L. At MNWR—first July 8; max 117 July 18 and 105 July 31, probably mainly adults; last Nov 7, one, very late. DUNLIN: first (but is it really?) Aug 14, one in breeding plumage, Onon L; next not until Sep 16 SP; counts very low, none over 28/day even in Oct; last Nov 24 SB, VB. At MNWR—first Sep 18; Oct numbers much better than elsewhere, 150–239/day Oct 2–27; 100 Nov 7 attests to mildness of fall weather; last 22, Nov 14.

SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER: first July 3, one Onon L; numbers low throughout season (see chart); last definite date Sep 26, one Onon L (see Long-billed D.); MNWR, 17–30/day in early Sep. LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER: only record at

	July			August			September			October			November		
	1-10	11-20	21-31	1-10	11-20	21-31	1-10	11-20	21-30	1-10	11-20	21-31	1-15	2	2
Golden Plover.....Ad	*					5	90	40	0	2					
	Im						2	10	15	15	7	2			
Ruddy Turnstone...Ad		4	10	50	34	2	4	3	2						
	Im														
Lesser Yellowlegs...Ad	25	45	30	30	25	15	6	6	3	2					
	Im			5	6	20	20	30	30	25	10	5	3		
Least Sandpiper....Ad	7	25	12	30	70	15	6	6	6	5	2	2	1		
	Im		2	45	100	100	20	20	20						
Short-billed Dowitcher...Ad		8	5	3	2	5	10	10	2	2					
	Im														
Semipalmated Sandpiper....Ad	6	20	120	500	350	120	15	15	10	2					
	Im			30	100	85	80	35	25	20	8	2			
Sanderling.....Ad		40	100	110	150	15	4	15	5	5	2	5			
	Im														

\* Average number of birds/day for the indicated 10 or 11 day period compilation made from Region V data plus available El Dorado Beach figures; Montezuma NWR figures not included.

Onon L, one Sep 6-7. At MNWR, some 11 noted Sep 12 and 2-20/day present thru remainder of Sep and all of Oct on the Storage Pool; a Nov 14 dowitcher (last date) was almost certainly a Long-billed. STILT SANDPIPER: first adult July 8, one Onon L; tallies low one-three/day; max seven Aug 8 SB and eight Sep 1 Onon L; first imm Aug 8; last, an imm Oct 3 Onon L. At MNWR—first Aug 15 (late) but a rapid peaking in early Sep to 61 Sep 6 (adult: imm ratio unknown); numbers dwindled rapidly, two-five/day only Sep 20-29; last, one Oct 13. SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER: most abundant scolopacine migrant; first July 10 SP; very heavy late July to late Aug flight with marked decrease by Sep 13 (see chart); late Sep only 12-45/day, in Oct three-eight/day; last, one Nov 4 SB, VB (very late). At MNWR—first July 17, rapid rise to max 540 July 31; sharp drop in mid-Sep, but late Sep—early Oct counts higher (50-75/day) than at Syracuse; last, two Nov 7, very late. WESTERN SANDPIPER: rather scarce, total of six Aug 17-Sep 16; some years two-four/day are reported in Oct. BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER: singles only, both imm, Sep 6-7 Onon L and Oct 6-7 Airpt, our first Oct record. HUDSONIAN GODWIT: first, one adult Aug 25 Onon L; seen there until Sep 2, then none seen despite daily checking until another (? same) adult appeared Sep 16-25; Sep 27 one very nervous imm; none thereafter. At MNWR—four adults July 14 (remarkably early) to July 21; one (? age) regularly Sep 5-Oct 2, last date, with two reported Sep 6.

RUFF: at least five individuals at Onon L; first, an adult male with black ear tufts, mottled brown back, and brown-and-white barred ruff July 1-4; second, another adult male with black ear tufts, black back, and solid black ruff, July 3, 6 and 8; third, an imm male, judging by patterning of underparts and size, July 8 and 12 (July 12 bird may have been a second imm male but imm plumage markings not distinctive enough to differentiate); fourth, an adult female July 30; adult males in advanced molt July 17 and Aug 11 could not be definitely categorized as new birds; last was a very small imm female Aug 20; this veritable rash of records from an 8-acre mudflat seems almost incredible, but dozens of observers saw these various birds. At MNWR—a single winter-plumaged adult male was present Aug 22-Sep 15. SANDERLING: first July 19, one Onon L; late July tallies only 40/day and max 100 Aug 7 SP; a rapid decline to 15-40/day thru late Aug and early Sep at SP but EDB much better (125 Aug 19, 170 Aug 26); late Sep and all Oct tallies very low; last Nov 21, two SP Inlet; as expected, very scarce at MNWR, date range Aug 15-Sep 29, max four Sep 29.

RED PHALAROPE: first, an imm Oct 3 (early) Derby Hill, riding lightly in the angry surf tossed up by a 45 mph NW gale; next report, two, both imm, Nov 6 SP; last Nov 13, two (? age) EDB. WILSON'S PHALAROPE: singles only July 19, Aug 11, Sep 23-25 at Onon L, the last a definite imm and a record late date; one Aug 19 EDB also imm. At MNWR—an adult female June 27, none thereafter until Aug 8, one-two/day (? age) Aug 8-25, last date. NORTHERN PHALAROPE: first, one Aug 29 SP; max six (one adult, five imm) Sep 2, SP and Onon L; at EDB, two (? three) Aug 29 and seven (one adult, six imm) Sep 5 with max ten Sep 4; a hiatus until Oct 2-9, one (? age) SB, VB; at MNWR, rather regularly seen from Sep 1, one, thru to Oct 2 with max four Sep 5-6.

Observations and data were obtained from the many local birders who deserve abundant thanks for careful checking of the many areas over many days. Specific thanks are due to the following observers—at Onondaga Lake, Jean W. Propst, M. L. Estoff, J. R. Bart, David B. Peakall, Margaret S. Rusk, Stuart Hosler Jr., and Thomas Riley; at Sylvan and Verona Beaches, Dorothy W. Ackley, M. S. Rusk, Paul and Sylvia Paquette, Ruth and Sally White; at Sandy Pond and Sandy Pond Inlet, most of the above observers; at El Dorado Beach, M. S. Rusk, D. C. Gordon; and at Montezuma NWR, a phenomenal series of observations by Walter E. Benning, also Dorothy McIlroy and R. J. Smith. I would like to request for 1966 similar efforts and

observations with particular attention to species and numbers of each, and if possible, age determinations (adult v. immature) from the central New York shorebird sites, particularly from the ElDorado Beach area and the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge and Howland's Island Game Management sector; the ElDorado Beach site is probably the best site for sampling those migrants that regularly use the Great Lakes as a stop-over point on migration and the Montezuma NWR—Howland's Island GMA complex is admirably placed at the top of the Finger Lakes—Susquehanna River corridor. Another sector that should be regularly checked because of both its position on the aforementioned corridor and its Great Lakes shore character is the Sodus Bay area.

427 South Main Street, North Syracuse, N.Y. 13212

Additional reference:

Roberts, T. S. *A Manual for the Identification of Birds of Minnesota and Neighboring States*, University of Minnesota Press, 1955.

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## CONSERVATION NEWS — FOREVER WILD WETLANDS?

MAXWELL C. WHEAT, JR.

A conservation victory celebration! A week before the November elections the Hempstead Town Board announced that it was entering into a cooperative agreement with the State (which would provide half the funds and personnel) to manage the Town's 10,000 acres of salt wetlands for conservation and recreation. The Federation's official support was utilized many times by the Hempstead Town Lands Resources Council, which spearheaded and coordinated the fight, to show the state-wide concern for these wetlands which are a key waterfowl and shorebird area.

After the agreement has been signed, it can be terminated only by mutual consent of both Town and State. This, of course, doesn't assure the perpetuity essential for protection of natural resources against mounting pressure. But it represents a dramatic and welcome change in policy.

The most permanent and forceful kind of protection for natural areas is found in Article XIV, Section I of the State Constitution which provides the "forever wild" protection of the Forest Preserve. Now there is an opportunity to expand this protection to other natural areas—marshes, underwater lands, etc.

The crucial decision will be made at the Constitutional Convention of 1967 which will revise the present State Constitution and present it to the voters for approval or disapproval. By then it will be on a "take it or leave it" basis. The delegates, who will be elected this fall, could eliminate the "forever wild" protection. On the other hand, they could expand its coverage. Impossible? Not when you consider recent conservation achievements—the Hempstead wetlands, Fire Island National Seashore, Golden Eagle protection (all of which the Federation supported).

Why couldn't this be known as the "Conservation Constitutional Con-

vention"? It could, if enough members have insight and a spirit of civic mindedness.

Contact NOW political leaders on all levels with suggestions along these lines. Besides 15 delegates to be elected at-large, three will be elected from each state senatorial district. Nominations for the latter can be influenced if enough interested citizens write, phone and visit local political chieftains who even now are mulling over the make up of the fall tickets — which must be completed by May 1 for ratification in the June primaries.

333 Bedell Street, Freeport, N.Y. 11520

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## COME TO LONG ISLAND, MAY 20-22, 1966!

"Remember the first time the annual meeting was held on Long Island? . . . 1966 wasn't it?" (May 20-22 at the Lido Beach Hotel, Lido Beach, N.Y.)

"How could I ever forget it? That's when I saw my first shearwater on that boat trip they arranged for us!"

"I'd certainly like to hear that speaker again — William Conway, head of the Bronx Zoo."

"But don't forget he was also Curator of Birds. He had been on plenty of expeditions. He was really worth hearing. . ."

We've been peering into the crystal ball to see how May 20-22 might look in the future. It seems to be shaping up under chairman Edwin Simon of 591 Campus Place, Baldwin, N.Y. as a block of time that will loom large in your memory if you will be sure not to miss this eventful weekend.

A pelagic trip is being planned. The committee, wild rumors claim, have been making contacts in the southern oceans for a return appearance of the Yellow-nosed Albatross that was so closely viewed on a boat trip a few years ago. Who knows what you will see out where birders seldom squint through binoculars?

We are also hoping that the hundreds of thousands of shorebirds that pour through our wetlands and over the flats at that time of year will arrange their migration schedule to meet us at Tobay and the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Sanctuary.

A significant paper session is being lined up by Emanuel Levine and Richard Sloss, co-chairmen. They are both former presidents of the Linnaean Society of New York and are thoroughly aware of the interesting research and field work that can be reported on at the annual meeting.

We frankly are excited about the speaker we have scheduled for the banquet Saturday night. He's 37-year-old William Conway, director of the New York Zoological Park (Bronx Zoo, for short). He has been doing spectacular work there in showing off the Zoo's great collection of wildlife—especially the birds, his particular field. Formerly Curator of Birds at the St. Louis Zoo in Missouri, in 1956 he came to the Bronx as Curator of Birds, was made associate director in 1960 and director in 1961.

Just to indicate the wealth of ideas that are being called upon to make this the most eventful annual meeting ever, we have the active help of all the bird clubs on Long Island: Baldwin Bird Club; Brooklyn Bird Club; Huntington Audubon Society; Lyman Langdon Audubon Society, and the Queens Bird Club.

So come on down to Long Island May 20-22 for a really great get-together. You will always remember it.

*Maxwell C. Wheat, Jr., Publicity Chairman*

## FIELD NOTES

**Pomarine Jaeger near Lake Saranac:** I observed a single young jaeger, most probably a Pomarine (*Stercorarius pomarinus*), flying south over the southeastern end of Oseetah Lake, near Lake Saranac, Franklin County, New York in mid-morning, September 5, 1965. The surrounding land level is all in excess of 1100 feet. Observed at less than 50 yards, the bird's stocky body, heavy, deliberate flight and pointed wings with light flashes in the primaries were similar to those of numerous Pomarine Jaegers I have observed and collected at sea in the tropical Atlantic Ocean. The underparts appeared mottled and the tail lacked elongated central rectrices indicating immaturity. The jaeger stayed about 50 feet above the surface of the lake and did not gain altitude while I watched it continue southward out of sight over the land.

Pomarine Jaegers are not rare during fall migration along the Atlantic coast, and jaegers, both Pomarine and Parasitic, *S. parasiticus*, have occurred regularly in Lakes Ontario and Erie during recent years (*Kingbird*, vols. 6-15, 1956-1965, and *Audubon Field Notes*, vols. 3-18, 1949-1965). Such non-pelagic jaegers, however, may not reach their ultimate migratory destination in the tropical and south Atlantic Ocean for "some of these birds which appear casually on Lake Erie seem to be in a weakened state, and several have been found dead." (*Kingbird* 9: 158, 1959). Inland records of Pomarine Jaegers in New York State are rare; Reilly and Parkes (1959: *Prelim. Annotated Checklist of N.Y. State Birds*, N.Y. State Mus. Sci. Dept.: 20) list four inland occurrences up to 1959. I can locate no subsequent inland records but Scheider saw an immature "cross Sandy Pond at the eastern end of Lake Ontario, loft higher and higher in wide circles, then head southeast inland, a lake escaping tactic suspected for a number of years but never demonstrated heretofore." (*Kingbird* 15: 27, 1965, *Audubon Field Notes* 19: 19-20, 1965). The present sighting, therefore, appears to be the fifth inland record for the state and the first time the species has been seen in the Adirondack region. The only previous jaeger record for the Adirondack region was a juvenal Parasitic Jaeger at Joc's Lake (43° 50' N, 74° 50' W) in Herkimer County, 40 miles southeast of Lake Saranac (W. L. Ralph and E. Bagg 1886. *Trans. Oneida Hist. Soc.* 3: 104). There had been no weather disturbance just prior to my seeing the jaeger so that the individual was probably an extreme stray which had inadvertently followed the St. Lawrence river drainage upstream rather than the usual pelagic route southward.

George E. Watson, Division of Birds, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560

**Ed. Note:** For additional fall Pomarine Jaeger records see Region 1, 2 and 5 reports in this issue.

**Louisiana Waterthrush in Jefferson County:** On July 29 and 30, 1965 I closely observed a Louisiana Waterthrush along a tributary stream of South Sandy Creek near the boundary of Washington Park 1.5 miles NW of Lorraine, Jefferson County at an elevation of 800 feet. At distances estimated sometimes as near as six yards, I watched the bird fly from low tree branches down to the shallow water to snap up water striders as it walked around, teetering all the while. On the 29th at approximately 8:15 AM it came to the water's edge as I was "spishing." On the 30th I observed it from 8:10 to 8:20 AM, both times watching through 7 x 50 binoculars. The white eyeline, unmarked white throat, generally whitish underparts with just a slight tinge of buffy, and the more grayish-brown upperparts than the Northern Waterthrush (especially on the top of the head) were very clear. The bird (or birds) did not seem very shy.

On July 31 Frank Clinch and I had at least ten minutes of further observation between 8:15 and 8:45 AM.

On April 29, 1961 I saw a Louisiana Waterthrush at Felts Mills Creek, Jefferson County (*Kingbird* XI: 116, 1961). This is the only other record of this species in this Region to my knowledge. The 1961 bird was undoubtedly a stray migrant. Felts Mills Creek is not suitable breeding habitat.

The July 1965 record would seem to extend the known summer range approximately 40 miles NW on the western side of the Adirondacks. Most northern breeding record appears to be Pixley Falls south of Boonville (Scheider, *Kingbird* XIV: 230, 1964).

The South Sandy Creek tributary runs over a shale rock bed strewn with small boulders. Its banks are sometimes steep and rise 10 to 60 feet to a beech-maple hemlock forest. The possibility of breeding should be carefully checked. There are many suitable stream segments with gorges throughout southern Jefferson and Lewis County in Tug Hill or near it which could harbor this species. I would think Whetstone Creek south of Lowville and the many branches of Sandy Creek would be places to begin the search.

David C. Gordon, 1347 Sherman Street, Watertown

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## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FALL SEASON

August 16 – November 30

DAVID B. PEAKALL

It was, according to most observers, a migration period without pronounced waves. The banding stations on Long Island reported a poor season with many species occurring in far lower numbers than usual. Nevertheless nearly 14,000 individuals of 125 species were banded. A similar effort along the shores of Lake Ontario would give a good deal of additional information on migration. Banding at Vischer Ferry Game Management Area (Region 8) revealed numbers of Lincoln's Sparrows, as was indicated by the 1963 TV kills at Elmira. This secretive species passes through in considerable numbers. Observations on the Appalachian ridges in Region 4 and along the Hudson valley added additional information on these flyways. Although the overall migration was not spectacular there was an unprecedented coastal flight of Saw-whet Owls on Long Island (involving at least 91 individuals, which will be detailed in the next issue) and some interesting waterfowl movements on Lake Ontario.

The migration of Brant upstate was well marked this fall. The count of 9520 at the south-east corner of Lake Ontario on October 23rd was apparently the largest concentration ever noted in the state away from the coast. On the same day 6500 were observed flying east along the lake edge in the Rochester area. Most textbooks refer to the Brant as strictly coastal but this is no longer correct. Eaton (1910) records only six specimens for the state away from the coast. Sheppard (*Canadian Field-Naturalist* 63:99, 1949) reviewed the status of this species for the Canadian side of Lake Ontario and Erie. He concluded that there had been

an increase in the previous 10–15 years but the maximum recorded was only thirty. Beardslee and Mitchell (1965) give 1949 as the first year of pronounced migration (maximum 62). The first count of thousands along Lake Ontario dates from the early 1950's and the first flights along the Hudson River were observed at this time. Before the failure of the eel grass in 1931 the Brant was strictly maritime, then although the numbers of Brant decreased subsequent to the loss of this marine plant on their wintering grounds, the inland occurrences increased. By 1950 the numbers were increasing on the coast (Bull, 1964) and at this time the large flights along the eastern Great Lakes were first noted. The wintering population is given by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (*Special Scientific Reports* 61, 68, 75 & 86) as 180–260,000 in recent years so that the numbers (at least 16,000 this year) using the Great Lakes flyway represent a sizeable proportion of the population. Rusk observed some movement inland up river valleys southward from the south-east corner of Lake Ontario; this probably represents the first leg of the overland journey to the ocean. There were scattered inland reports involving, however, only a few individuals at this time. A heavy flight of all three species of scoter was noted at the same time as the big movement of Brant.

Both Pomarine and Parasitic Jaegers were noted in unusually high numbers along the shore of Lake Ontario. It would be interesting to know to what extent jaegers use a similar overland route to the Brant or whether the birds observed on the Great Lakes move overland to the Gulf of Mexico as has been suggested by Williams (*Auk* 82:19, 1965).

There was a good flight of all winter finches including both crossbills. There were a fair scattering of records of three-toed woodpeckers including several of the Northern or Ladder-backed. The flight of Bonaparte's Gulls in the Niagara Gorge was good, although it did not reach the size of the 1959 flight. As usual other small gulls – Black-headed, Franklin's and Little – were seen with them. Considering the normal range of these other gulls this association is surprising. Franklin's and Little Gulls and Kittiwakes were recorded in the Rochester area and Kittiwakes were also seen in Region 5. It appears that the Kittiwake is a scarce, but regular visitant to Lake Ontario in the late fall.

Long Island rarities included Frigatebird, Sooty Tern and Scissor-tailed Fly-catcher; upstate rarities included Hawk Owl (Adirondacks), Gyrfalcon (Jefferson County), Boreal Owl (Region 5), Black Rail (Finger Lakes), Dovekie (Region 2) and Wheatear (Region 1).

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Abbreviations used in regional reports: Co-county; imm-immature; L-Lake; max-maximum one-day count; mob-many observers; Pk-Park; Pt-Point; R-River; Rd-Road.

## REGION 1 — NIAGARA FRONTIER

RICHARD C. ROSCHE

Recent fall seasons have been characterized by drought that, at times, reached serious proportions. This trend was broken, or at least interrupted, this year, for precipitation throughout the period was above the long-term average. Temperatures were somewhat below normal.

The landbird migration started late, the first noticeable influx occurring over the night of August 20–21. The first week of September was a time of good land bird movement, with peak days the second and third.

Television tower kills in the Town of Colden, Erie County, indicate that the night of September 17–18 was conducive to a large movement of small passerines. However, the records indicate that this movement was not apparent to the average birder on the following day. Of 41 dead birds picked up on September 18 at the tower, nearly half (18) were Red-eyed Vireos; the remainder were 21 warblers of nine species, an oriole and a Song Sparrow.

September 26–29 is almost always a peak time of passerine movement in this Region. 1965 was no exception. Harold Axtell stated, "The biggest apparent migration of the month and one of the most exciting autumn birding days in recent years occurred on Sunday the 26th. The weather on this day was unsettled and rather wild, with the lowest temperature (39 degrees) since last spring, strong winds that shifted from southwest to north, and some extremely dark clouds that produced a few brief scattered showers, and even a partially-developed waterspout over Lake Erie just before noon, the second within a few weeks" (*Prothonotary*, 31: 100). Large numbers of Chimney Swifts and Purple Martins were noted on this day; the first Rusty Blackbirds, Pine Siskins and White-crowned Sparrows appeared, and a large influx of White-throated Sparrows occurred. Nineteen birds of eleven species hit the Colden television tower over the foggy night of September 26–27. Three species of thrushes accounted for half (the typical proportion for late September); one each of six species of warblers (including a Connecticut), a sapsucker, and two Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were also included in this kill. September 27 was also a good birding day in many other parts of the Region.

Other noteworthy days for landbird movement were October 10–12, October 16–17, and November 1–3. Some insectivorous birds tended to remain later and, in some cases, in larger numbers than usual.

Noteworthy were the large numbers of Bonaparte's Gulls concentrated in two areas on the Niagara River. Other less common small gulls were frequently found with them. A major flight of waterfowl occurred October 24–25. In the hill country south of Buffalo certain species were found on small lakes and ponds in unprecedented high numbers.

Northern land birds were much in evidence, indicating that the coming winter season might be particularly interesting to field ornithologists. Except for Boreal Chickadee and Bohemian Waxwing, all the usual species were reported. Rough-legged Hawks and Northern Shrikes appeared in small numbers; several Snowy Owls were noted, making this the second occasion in recent years when a small return flight materialized after a peak year in their cycle. All the northern finches were reported in fair numbers. Of special interest was the fact that the White-winged Crossbill far outnumbered the Red Crossbill in abundance. Evidence obtained from other parts of the Northeast earlier in the season indicated that the reverse would most probably be true this winter.

Other highlights of the season included the observation of Eared Grebe, Golden Eagle, Pomarine Jaeger, Black-headed Gull, Wheatear and Dickcissel.

Abbreviations used: Alleg—Allegany; Bflo—Buffalo; BOS—Buffalo Ornithological Society October Bird Count; Chaut—Chautauqua; Gen—Genesee; ISP—Island State Park; Nia—Niagara; Ont—Ontario; OOGMA—Oak Orchard Game Management Area; opp—opposite; S—South; Spgs—Springs; Wyo—Wyoming.

Contributors: RFA—Robert F. Andrle; CMB—Clarence M. Beal; PB—Paul Benham; TLB—Thomas L. Bourne; RB—Richard Brownstein; JB—Joanna Burger; LDB—Lou and Doris Burton; VC—Victor Carpenter; WC—Wilma Csont; DD—Dorothy Danner; HBD—Harold and Barbara Dodge; MLE—Mary Louise Emerson; JG—Joseph Grzybowski; JK—Joseph Kikta; WHK—Walter and Harriette Klabunde; HDM—Harold D. Mitchell; EO—Edwin Olmstead; KP—Katherine Palmer; EMP—Elizabeth M. Pillsbury; FMR—Frances M. Rew; RDR—Richard and Dorothy Rosche; RR—Robert Rybczynski; DS—Daniel Salisbury CMS—George M. Smith; WAS—William A. Smith; KOS—Kenneth and Ora Swanson; RT—Ruth True; EAU—Edward and Alice Ulrich; MMW—Marie and Margaret Wendling.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon, very poor flight, max three. Red-necked Grebe: one, Nov 14, Dunkirk Harbor (RDR et al); one, Nov 20, L Erie at Athol Spgs (TLB)—only reports. Horned Grebe: max 254, Nov 21, Chaut L (FMR et al). EARED GREBE: one, Nov 23 (TLB), Nov 25 (JG et al) and Nov 26 (RB et al), L Erie at Sturgeon Pt. Common Egret: two, Sep 5, OOGMA (RB et al); one, Sep 5, S Bflo and two, Sep 19–25, S Pk, Bflo (JK et al)—poor year. Black-crowned Night Heron: more reported than in past few autumns; max 13, Sep 26, Beaver ISP (RB et al) and 13, Sep 26, OOGMA (JB et al). Whistling Swan: max 45, Nov 11, Chaut L (MLE). Blue Goose: one, Nov 2, Chaut L (KOS)—only report. Gadwall: 17, Oct 12, Beaver ISP (JB et al)—noteworthy concentration. Redhead: one, Sep 22, S Pk, Bflo (RFA et al)—early. Ring-necked Duck: two, Sep 27, Cheektowaga (JG)—early. King Eider: two males, Nov 5, L Erie at Athol Spgs (TLB)—rare in this plumage.

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: two, Nov 3, Lewiston, Nia Co (WHK)—late. Accipiters: scarce, even during migration peaks. Rough-legged Hawk: one, Oct 11, Scio. Alleg Co (LDB)—early; small numbers during Nov—rather poor flight. GOLDEN EAGLE: one, Nov 21–22, Lancaster, Erie Co (JG). Bald Eagle: no reports. Peregrine Falcon: one, Sep 5, Hamburg (TLB)—only report. Chukar: Nia Co populations continue to increase, both by natural means and by continued releasing by various organizations; 24, Oct 15 (RFA et al) and 12, Nov 21 (JG et al), Shadigee Rd, Olcott. Spotted Sandpiper: one, Sep 29, Scio, Alleg Co (EO)—exceptionally late for hill country south of Bflo. Willet: one, Sep 27, S Bflo Harbor (Times Beach) (JK et al); one, Sep 29, East Eden, Erie Co (TLB)—seen almost yearly in autumn. Purple Sandpiper: one, Nov 6, Wilson Harbor, Nia Co (MMW)—rare, few recent records for L Ont. Hudsonian Godwit: one, Sep 29 (JB et al) and Sep 30 (JK), S Bflo Harbor (Times Beach)—exceptionally good flight at eastern end of L Erie (most records from adjacent Ont). Red Phalarope: one, Nov 23 (TLB), Nov 25 (JG et al) and Nov 26 (RR et al), L Erie at Sturgeon Pt, Erie Co.

POMARINE JAEGER: one, Nov 27, L Erie at Sturgeon Pt (RB et al). Parasitic Jaeger: one, Oct 15, L Ont at Olcott (RFA et al); two, Oct 21, L Erie at Athol Spgs (TLB). Iceland Gull (*L. g. glaucopterus*): one, Nov 6, Nia Falls (RB et al)—only report. Bonaparte's Gull: in early fall the major concentrations were on the Nia R in the Peace Bridge area opp Bflo; later, as is usual, the largest numbers were at Nia Falls and in the lower Nia R; max 3000, Aug 28, Nia R opp Bflo (JG et al) and 9000, Oct 31, Nia Falls (RFA et al). The following species of gulls were with the Bonaparte's. BLACK-HEADED GULL: one, Sep 11 (DS et al) and Sep 23 (RFA et al) Nia R opp Bflo; one, Oct 31 and Nov 1 (JG et al), Nia Falls. Franklin's Gull: Sep 11–28 on Nia R opp Bflo—max two, Sep 24 (HDM et al); one, Oct 31 (JG et al),

Nov 4 (RFA et al) and Nov 6 (NMW et al), Nia Falls; two, Sep 23, L Erie at Hamburg TownPk(TLB). Little Gull: present nearly all Sep on Nia R opp Bflo—max five, Sep 11 (DS et al); max at Nia Falls, five, Oct 31 (JG et al); singles Sep 21 and 24 L Erie at Hamburg Town Pk (DD, TLB), Oct 7 and 13 L Erie at Athol Spgs (TLB), Nov 14 (imm) Dunkirk Harbor (RDR et al). Forster's Tern: singles Sep 23 (TLB et al) and Oct 12 (RFA), L Erie at Hamburg Town Pk, Sep 25 at Nia Falls (DS et al) and on Nia R opp Bflo (MMW et al); max four, Oct 19 Beaver ISP (JB et al). Black Tern: max counts on Nia R opp Bflo—5500 Aug 28 (RB et al), 3500 Aug 30 (HDM et al) and 2000 Sep 4 (JG et al). Barn Owl: one, Sep 14–30, Lancaster, Erie Co (JG et al). Snowy Owl: one, Nov 21, Nia Falls (JG et al); several others reported in metropolitan Bflo area but definite data lacking. Long-eared Owl: one, Aug 31, Eden, Erie Co (TLB)—only report. Short-eared Owl: seven, Nov 30, Lyndonville, Orleans Co (WAS, GMS)—max in area where large numbers occurred in winter 1964–65.

**GOATSUCKERS—STARLING:** Common Nighthawk: good migratory movements—11, Aug 18 Williamsville, Erie Co (HDM); 12, Aug 26 Birdsall, Alleg Co (LDB); max 670, Sep 3 Kenmore, Erie Co (RB); 26, Sep 4 Hamburg (TLB); 50, Sep 5 Belmont, Alleg Co (EO); 18, Sep 18 Cheektowaga (RB). Chimney Swift: 180, Sep 26 over Bflo (JG et al); 10, Sep 28 Kiantone, Chaut Co (EMP et al)—larger than usual numbers late Sep. Red-bellied Woodpecker: A number of Gen R Valley records from Alleg CO indicate a marked southward dispersal from the well established valley locations farther north; one at feeder, Oct 31–Nov 30, Belmont (KP et al); one, Nov 19, Houghton (VC); one, Nov 24, Angelica (LDB et al); one, Nov 26, Caneadea (LDB et al). Purple Martin: estimates at the Jamestown Roost—15,000 Aug 30, 3000 Sep 9, 31 Sep 21 (CMB); 58, Sep 26 Beaver ISP (JG)—another insectivorous species present in larger than usual numbers so late. Tufted Titmouse: seven banded, Oct 16–31, Athol Spgs; four–eight at same place Nov 1–30 (WC); one, Nov 11, Bflo (RR). Red-breasted Nuthatch: fair to moderate flight from late Aug thru end of period; max 10, Nov 20 Alleg State Pk (EMP). Carolina Wren: one at feeder, Nov 22, Pt Stockholm, Chaut Co and one at feeder, Nov 25, 28, 29, Greenhurst, Chaut Co (KOS)—still extremely scarce.

Mockingbird: no reports before mid-Oct; Oct 10, one Batavia area and one Alleg Co (BOS); one, Nov 1–16 Belmont (LDB); one, Nov 11 Grand Island (WHK); one, Nov 26 Athol Spgs (WC). Robin: estimates at Jamestown Roost—500 Aug 30 and Sep 9, 1000 Sep 21 and 30 (CMB); estimates at Casey Rd Roost, Town of Amherst, Erie Co—1500 Oct 26, 27 and 1300 Oct 28 (RDR). Eastern Bluebird: continues to show definite signs of increase in populations; one, Nov 26, Langford, Erie Co (TLB)—late. WHEATEAR: one, Sep 25, Beaver ISP (PB, HDM, EAU, RB); first record for Region; it was studied well on the edge of a golf course, in the same type of habitat where one was found in nearby Ont on Sep 24, 1949. Northern Shrike: generally poor flight; one, Nov 14, Wellsville, Alleg Co (LDB)—first; three additional reports of single birds. Loggerhead Shrike: one, Aug 20 Lancaster (JG)—only report. Starling: estimates at Casey Rd Roost, Amherst—75,000 on Oct 26, 25,000 on Oct 27 and 7,000 on Oct 28 (RDR).

**VIREOS—WARBLERS:** Prothonotary Warbler: one, Aug 22 OOGMA (RB et al)—late. Yellow Warbler: one, Sep 22 S Pk, Bflo (RFA et al)—unusually late. Connecticut Warbler: one, Sep 19 Lancaster (JG); one, Sep 27 Colden TV Tower (RDR). Mourning Warbler: one, Oct 8, Lancaster (JG)—late.

**BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS:** Estimates of icterids at Casey Rd Roost: Oct 26–Redwing—500, Rusty—30, Grackle—3000, Cowbird—200; Oct 27–Redwing—200, Rusty—40, Grackle—500, Cowbird—100; Oct 28–Redwing—1, Rusty—400, Grackle—300, Cowbird—100 (RDR). DICKCISSEL: one at feeder, Oct 16–19, Hamburg (RFA et al). Evening Grosbeak: nine, Oct 17, Town of Orangeville, Wyo Co (HBD) and three, Oct 17, Bowmansville (JG)—first; present thru end of period in moderate numbers throughout Region; max 35, Nov 18 Wellsville (LDB); 25, Nov 20 Alleg State Pk

(EMP). Pine Grosbeak: one, Nov 7 Lewiston (WHK)—first; max 12, Nov 30 Lyndonville (WAS, GMS). Common Redpoll: two, Oct 28 Lancaster (JK)—first; max 200, Nov 19 Cheektowaga (JG). Pine Siskin: one, Sep 26 Beaver ISP (JG)—first; present throughout Region in moderate numbers thru end of period; max 50 (several localities). Red Crossbill: one, Sep 24, Bowmansville (JG)—very early; much less common than White-winged Crossbill but our only two definite reports indicate an earlier movement than usual—six, Nov 1, Wilson Cemetery, Nia Co (JG) and eight, Nov 6, Como Pk, Lancaster (JK et al). White-winged Crossbill: a good flight beginning earlier than usual; two, Nov 1 Springville, Erie Co (RT) and 11, Nov 1, Wilson Cemetery (JG)—first; max 15, Nov 6 Beaver Meadow Wildlife Refuge, Wyo Co (PB). Snow Bunting: moderate flight beginning in mid-Oct; max 100, Nov 29 Angelica, Alleg Co (EO).

*Addendum:* A junco collected on Jan 22, 1965 in Williamsville, Erie Co was critically determined by Dr. Lester Short of the U.S. Nat'l. Museum to be *Junco oreganus montanus*. This, the first specimen of Oregon Junco for the Region, is located in the Bflo Museum of Science.

Hardscrabble Road, Bernardsville, New Jersey 07924.

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## REGION 2 — GENESEE

HOWARD S. MILLER

Temperatures for the period averaged below normal except for the last month. The cool weather of September terminated the main southward flight of landbirds somewhat earlier than average. Precipitation, except for September, was above normal, especially for November when it was almost an inch above average.

The fall flight of Canada Geese seemed light, but there was a good Brant and scoter flight. The shorebird migration locally was poor. On the other hand, all the northern finches except the Hoary Redpoll were reported, with Common Redpoll and Pine Siskin probably the most common. This flight of northern finches is in direct contrast with last fall when almost none were reported. The period was outstanding for the number of rare birds: Glossy Ibis, Gannet, Avocet, Pomarine and Parasitic Jaegers, Franklin's and Little Gulls, Kittiwake, Dovekie, Black-backed and Northern Three-toed Woodpeckers, Boreal Chickadee and Bohemian Waxwing.

Observers frequently cited: JB—John Brown; GD—Mrs. Gertrude Davis; JD—James Doherty; JF—John Foster; DG—David Gordon; WH—William Hartrampf; AEK, BK—Allen E. and Beatrice Kemnitzer; GL—Dr. Gerhardt Leubner; WCL—Walter C. Listman; WL—Warren Lloyd; RM—Miss Ruth MacRae; RGM—Robert G. McKinney; JM, TM—Joseph and Thelma McNett; MM—Mrs. Maryanne Menuhin; HSM—Howard S. Miller; NM, LM—Dr. Neil and Laura Moon; RTO—Richard T. O'Hara; FP—Frank Phelps; NR—Nestor Ross; ES—Mrs. Esther Stiles; MS—Mrs. Maryanne Sunderlin; ST—Stephen Taylor; TET—Thomas E. Tetlow.

Abbreviations: BB—Braddock's Bay; DEP—Durand Eastman Park; EL—East Lakeshore; HBP—Hamlin Beach Park; SA—Shore Acres; SB—Sodus Bay; SBB—Sodus Bay Bluff; WP—Webster Park; WL—West Lakeshore.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: max 175, SBB Oct 24 (JB, AEK, WCL, MS) and 200, SB Oct 25 (WCL). Red-necked Grebe: uncommon; seen at WP Oct 17 (AEK); two, HBP Oct 23 (GOS hike). An immature GANNETT (scarce locally) was seen at HBP Oct 27 (WCL). It was carefully studied by an observer who has had experience with the species both locally and on the coast. Double-crested Cormorant:

five, SB Oct 17 (AEK, WCL). Great Blue Herons seemed slightly up in numbers. Black-crowned Night Herons continued very scarce. Two GLOSSY IBIS were carefully observed at HBP Sep 19 (TET). The observer has seen the species previously.

Brant passed thru in the usual west-to-east direction along the lake, mostly on Oct 25 when an estimated 6,500 birds went by. Comparatively few were seen before or after that date. Canvasback: max only eight, SB Oct 24 (MS et al). Lesser Scaup: 25 off Charlotte Pier Sep 25 (WCL). Bufflehead: 150 along WL Oct 30 (RTO)—a good count for this increasingly common duck. Oldsquaw: max an estimated 2,000 with scoters at HBP Oct 23 (GOS hike). White-winged Scoter: 20 along WL Sep 11 (WCL); an estimated 2,000 passed HBP Oct 23 (GOS hike). An estimated 800 Surf and 1,700 Common Scoters passed HBP Oct 23 (GOS hike). Care was taken with these estimates. Hooded Merganser: 46 at Port Bay Nov 18 (MM, ES); 60 along EL Nov 20 (AEK, WCL). This species is common along the lake in winter.

**HAWKS—OWLS:** Goshawk: an adult at SB Oct 24 (JB, AEK, WCL, MS) and one at HBP Nov 6 (AEK, WCL)—this species was not reported during the spring flight. Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks continued very low in numbers. An early Rough-legged Hawk was seen in Newark Oct 1 (ES). Peregrine Falcon: one at SB Oct 2–16 (AEK, WCL)—an escaped falconers bird as part of the jesses still were present.

Peak counts were only 12 Am. Golden Plover and six Black-bellied Plover, near Kendall Sep 6 (AEK, BK). AVOCET: one at SA Sep 25 (WCL) to Oct 3, seen by many observers and photographed—first record for Region. There was an incursion of jaegers into our area and also to the east. Most of them were immatures. Immature Pomarine Jaegers were recorded at Manitou Sep 8 (WCL), at HBP Oct 23 (GOS hike) and at SBB Oct 24 (AEK et al). Parasitic Jaegers were seen at BB Oct 5 (WCL) and Oct 6—adult (WCL); at SBB, Oct 10 and two Oct 16 (all AEK, WCL). All were studied carefully by one or more experienced observers who realized the difficulty of making a positive identification of these immature birds. We submit these records and will let other observers form their own opinions. Great Black-backed Gull: 30 at SB Oct 16 (ES). Franklin's Gull: Manitou Oct 23 (AEK). Bonaparte's Gull: 750 east of Sea Breeze Nov 14 (WCL et al). Little Gull: one at Charlotte Sep 25 (WCL); two at SBB Nov 14 (TET). BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE: three at Manitou Nov 9 (WCL); two at SBB Nov 14 (AEK). Both observers have had repeated experiences with this species which is probably a rare late fall migrant here. DOVEKIE: two at SBB Nov 14 (AEK)—first record for Region. (Ed. Note: details not received) A Saw-whet Owl was netted and banded at Irondequoit Oct 10 (GL) and one was banded in Penfield Oct 16 (RGM).

**GOATSUCKERS—STARLING:** Common Nighthawk: 50 over Rochester Sep 3 (JF); two south of Summerville Oct 16 (WCL)—very late. Six late Chimney Swifts, were seen over DEP Oct 6 (HSM). Pileated Woodpecker: one, Penfield Oct 16 (RGM). There was a light incursion of both species of northern woodpeckers, with the first Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker being seen in Rochester Oct 17 (JF); one seen in DEP Nov 11 (RTO). Two NORTHERN THREE-TOED WOODPECKERS were seen in WP Nov 28 (WL). Olive-sided Flycatcher: one, Penfield Sep 6 (RGM). There was some migratory movement of Black-capped Chickadees but the only large number was an estimated 1,000 in DEP Nov 8 (JD). The next day few could be found. A single Boreal Chickadee was found in DEP Nov 14 and was heard giving its typical calls (GOS hike). An immature Mockingbird was in DEP Oct 30–Nov 7 (JD, HSM, FP). Robin: 50, DEP Nov 7–21. An injured Gray-cheeked Thrush was found in DEP Nov 14 (GOS hike). Six Eastern Bluebirds were at SB Oct 16 (ES). A very early Ruby-crowned Kinglet was seen in Rochester Sep 1 (ST). Water Pipit: max 24, Parma Sep 6 (WL, RM). Two BOHEMIAN WAXWINGS were found in the fruit orchard at DEP Nov 21 (JD et al) and one was still there Nov 28 (JF, WCL).

**VIREOS—WARBLERS:** Solitary Vireo: one in Rochester Sep 30 (JF). Red-eyed

Vireo: 30 along the lakeshore Sep 2 (ST). Philadelphia Vireo: one in Rochester Sep 19 (ST). Orange-crowned Warbler: one at SB Oct 2 (AEK, WCL). Yellowthroat: one at Manitou Nov 5 (JD).

**BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS:** A huge flock of Common Grackles, estimated at 30,000 birds, was at SB Oct 24 (MS et al). Evening Grosbeak: max 50, HBP Nov 11 (DG, AEK). Pine Grosbeak: first, five in DEP Nov 7 (JM, TM et al); max 32 in DEP Nov 21 (WL, MS); two in WP Oct 31 (WL, RM). Common Redpoll: first, five in Irondequoit Oct 30 (LM, NM); max 200 at HBP Nov 6 (AEK, WCL). Pine Siskin: max 200 at DEP Nov 8 (JD) and 750 at SB Nov 20 (JD). White-winged Crossbill: max 20 in DEP Oct 31 (NR) and 11 in Irondequoit, same day (LM, NM). Fox Sparrow: one to two, Webster Oct 8–31 (AEK, BK). This species seemed scarce this fall. Lincoln's Sparrow: two in Island Cottage Woods Sep 25 (WCL). Lapland Longspur: eight in Ogden Nov 8 (WCL). Snow Buntings seemed rather uncommon.

54 Luella Street, Rochester 14609

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## REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

SALLY HOYT SPOFFORD

Throughout most of the Region the drought was less severe than last fall, with light rains at intervals soaking into the ground with no run-off. Streams and ponds barely rose, and precipitation for the year is still many inches below normal. Temperatures have been near normal or below, but with few extremes. A killing frost occurred however, on August 28 in most areas which finished off some of the food supply for some species, and migration was accordingly advanced a little. Wild food is fairly abundant, especially thornapples, birch catkins, acorns and hemlock cones.

The season very early gave promise of being as good as last year was poor. It appears that every winter finch is going to be represented by at least small flocks, for Evening and Pine Grosbeaks, Red and White-winged Crossbills, Pine Siskins, Redpolls and Snow Buntings have all been around, plus Purple Finches and Goldfinches. In addition, Black-backed Woodpeckers have been spotted in several locations, Boreal Chickadees in two, Red-breasted Nuthatches are numerous, and a few Rough-legged Hawks have appeared in the northern areas.

At Montezuma, the personnel report a Goose peak of 4,620, the third week in November, and the astonishing peak of over 45,000 for ducks. This is a 60% increase over last year, and probably reflects the extreme drought in outer areas, which concentrated waterfowl in refuges. The Widgeon count of 27,000 compares with 17,000 in '64. Mallards and Blacks had increased, also.

From figures supplied me for the Elmira TV tower kill, it appears to have been spread out over a longer period, with fewer birds picked up at any one time. For example, with a big migration heard going over the night of Sep 23, and low clouds, only six warblers were picked up on the 24th and 21 on the 25th. Likewise, the flight was heavy the night of the 29th but only 18 were found dead the next day. The last tower pick-up was on October 6, with one each of Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Magnolia, Wilson's, Bay-breasted, Chestnut-sided and Black-throated Green Warblers, Slate-colored Junco, White-throated and Song Sparrows.

Contributors: JBa—Jamesine Bardeen; JBr—Jack Brubaker; WEB—Walter E. Benning; VD—Vernon Dewey; HAF—Helen A. Fessenden; FGr—Florence Graham; WG—William Groesbeck; FG—Frank Guthrie; HH—Herbert Hendrickson; WH—Wilfred Howard; EJ—Eric Johnson; PMK—Paul M. Kelsey; ML—Malcolm Lerch;

DM—Dorothy McIlroy; GM—Glenn MacMillan; ER—Esther Ruggles; FR—Fred Ranson; MR—Margaret Rusk; BS—Betty Strath; GAS—Gustav A. Swanson; MS—Mary Smith; WRS—Walter R. Spofford; MPW—Mary P. Welles; JW—Jayson Walker.

Localities: Cay L—Cayuga Lake; Sen L—Seneca L; Steub Co—Steuben County; Tomp Co—Tompkins County; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; SWS—Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: good numbers on Cay L in early Nov. Red-throated Loon: no reports. Red-necked Grebe: one, Oct 7 Chemung R (WH), rare in Region. Great Blue Heron: max 89, Aug 29 MNWR (WEB), rather high count. Cattle Egret: one, Nov 4 Beechtree Rd near Throopsville—late date, but well documented by observer, Ruth Borst. Common Egret: max 22, Sep 18 MNWR (WEB); one (last) Oct 12 MNWR (DM). Least Bittern: scattered reports at MNWR; two, Aug and first two weeks Sep. Penn Yan Marsh at head of east branch Keuka L (not seen there very often).

Whistling Swan: one (first) Sep 12, MNWR; max 56, Nov 14 (55 left, one remained, still present Nov 30) (VD). Canada Goose: migration through Region from third week Sep to end Nov, normal. Peak 4,620 third week Nov MNWR, below last year's 7,000; 4,600 still there Nov 30. One Brant Nov 14 at Refuge. Snow Goose: max 8 Oct 24 MNWR; 3 (last) Nov 28. Blue Goose: max 50, Oct 24 MNWR; 9 still there Nov 30. Mallard: increase in numbers at MNWR, with 5,000 still there, Nov 30. Ditto for Black Ducks with 4,000 on Nov 30. At SWS, 180 Blacks is a high count this fall. European Widgeon: two, various dates in Sep and Oct, MNWR (mob). American Widgeon: first migrants at end of August; 220 on Sep 4; 7,000 Sep 14 (MR); 27,000 peak, end Sep. (Est. by Refuge personnel) Wood Duck: max 65–70, SWS, early Oct; most had left at end of third week Oct. Redhead and Canvasback: first for s. end Sen L, Nov 9 (JBr). Canvasback: 1,000 (high) at MNWR, last of Nov. Lesser Scaup: 24 (first) s. end Cay L, Oct 16 (FR). Redhead: three Oct 18 (first for s. end Cay L) (FR); 3,500 at MNWR end of Nov, 1,000 less than a year ago. Oldsquaw: one, Oct 1 Sen L—early (JW); one, Nov 16 Chases' Pond, Breesport, first fall record for Elmira area (GM). Ruddy Duck: two Oct 18 s. end Cay L (FR); not often seen near Ithaca.

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: numerous reports; max 14 Aug 28, n. of MNWR (WEB) Goshawk: Nov 14, one chasing Rough-leg, Star Stanton Hill near Dryden, (WRS); two alive and one dead, same place, Nov 15 (PMK); one or two other reports in area in Nov. Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 imm female shot near Ithaca in mid-Nov; a few reports during migration. Cooper's Hawk: only two reports near Ithaca, both birds trapped at State Game Farm; one, Nov 1, near Watkins Glen (JBr). Broad-winged Hawk: one adult (first), Sep 4 Etna (WRS); only small Sep flight noted here. Rough-legged Hawk: only two reports at southern end of lakes; up to 4 at MNWR in Nov. Golden Eagle: a freshly shot first year Golden Eagle (wt. 9½ lbs) was found Nov 11 in Steub Co between Cameron and Bath (Eaton). Bald Eagle: no reports in Cay L Basin this fall, but an adult seen, Bluff Pt, Keuka L Aug 28. The nest tree and old nest of the Bald Eagle, long a land-mark on the Storage Pond at MNWR, blew down in high winds of Nov 1. Marsh Hawk: three—four reported regularly at MNWR, rare elsewhere. Peregrine Falcon: one, Oct 3 just s. of Ithaca over Swanson farm (GAS); one other reported, Oct 10, MNWR but no verification report filed. Ruffed Grouse: abundant, at least four hit windows in Ithaca area, one surviving. Turkey: an increase in Steub Co; flocks of 14, 17 and 30 seen near Greenwood (fide WG). BLACK RAIL: one, Oct 13, found dead e. of Penn Yan (ML) being mounted for Keuka College Museum—first record for Region, so far as I can determine.

Shore-birding was good at MNWR, good at several places near Elmira (esp. Sep 1 and Sep 27), but poor at Ithaca, where the long-famous "Hog Hole" (s.w. corner of

Cay L) is fast disappearing in the face of efforts to fill and "improve" the lake front.

Only a few high counts and last dates will be given here. Unless otherwise indicated, the figures were furnished by Walter Benning from MNWR. (See shorebird article by Fritz Scheider in this issue.) Golden Plover: 71 on Sep 6 is a very high count; last, Nov 6. Black-bellied Plover: max 29 Oct 9; last, one Nov 14. Spotted Sandpiper: Nov 20 (late date) Hog Hole, Ithaca (FR). Knot: one, Sep 21 MNWR (often missed). Pectoral Sandpiper: max 94 Sep 6; last Nov 14. White-rumped Sandpiper: 13 (high) Oct 27; last, one Nov 14. Baird's Sandpiper: 13 (high) Sep 17; last, one Nov 14. Dunlin: first one Sep 1 Horseheads Dump (MPW); two, Sep 18 MNWR, max 239 Oct 27, 22 still there Nov 14; first at south end Cay L, Oct 2 (FR). Both Dowitchers present in early Sep, MNWR; last definite Long-billed, Oct 31. Stilt Sandpiper: 61 (unusually high) Sep 6. Western Sandpiper: one, Sep 11, Hog Hole (PMK), only report. Hudsonian Godwit: max two Sep 6; last, one Oct 2. Ruff: a bird which was probably this was reported near Elmira, Sep 17 (WH)—no verification report filed; one, Aug 22, Sep 12 and 15 MNWR. Wilson's Phalarope: two, Aug 18, one, Aug 25. Northern Phalarope: first, one MNWR Sep 1; max four Sep 5–6; one photographed near Odessa early Oct (BS).

Great Black-backed Gull: turned up mid-Oct on Sen and Cay Ls; one, mid-Nov, Penn Yan (FG)—only 4 or 5 there in 20 years. Laughing Gull: Aug 16, Ithaca Marina (HH) in what was described as "lousy plumage." Caspian Tern: max 5 Aug 16, Cay L (FG); 12, Aug 23–26, Sen L, several observers. Black Tern: most left at end of Aug, rather early. Mourning Dove: max 108 Sep 8, MNWR (WEB). Great Horned Owl: calling vociferously in Etna in Nov (WRS). Short-eared Owl: one only, found dead Nov 11, Ludlowville. Saw-whet Owl: one only, Sep 5 Compton Rd s. of Ithaca (GAS). Common Nighthawk: W. Groesbeck again watched the migration at Hornell, reports max 128 on Sep 5, one week later than usual.

**SWIFTS—STARLING:** As usual, a few Belted Kingfishers were still in the area at the end of the period. Red-bellied Woodpecker: raised young at Keuka (FG); at feeders at Branchport, Watkins Glen, Waterburg and Interlaken. Red-headed Woodpecker: scarce or absent everywhere except around Geneva. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: one, Nov 1, Bardeen Farm, Burdett; one male Nov 10 and thereafter, Beebe L, Cornell Campus, feeding primarily on dead hemlock (EJ and others); one, Nov 15, Yellow Barn Hill Rd w. of Dryden (PMK). Northern Three-toed Woodpecker: a good description of what appeared to be a pair of this species came from a point near the Yacht Club on w. shore Cay L on Nov 29. All attempts to locate the birds have been unsuccessful, but hemlocks show some bark-flaking.

Western Kingbird: a verification report for a sighting of two on Hungerford Hill, near Ithaca, Oct 23, has been filed by Bart and Spies; all characters noted except white outer tail feathers and in absence of that key character, definite identification must remain a question. Tree Swallow: heavy migration noted at Waterloo, end of Sep; 5,000 Sep 28; 10,000 Sep 29; Sep 30, 8–10,000 (JW). Crow: flock of 250, mid-Nov, east of Penn Yan, a large number there for recent years (FG). Boreal Chickadee: one, Nov 4, Barton's cottage on Cayuta L (BS); one, Nov 6, Penn Yan, netted and photographed (ML). Very few of this species have ever been reported in Region. Red-breasted Nuthatch: many reports, some remaining at feeders to end of period. Mockingbird: scattered reports, but no apparent increase. Eastern Bluebird: reports from Watkins Glen, Keuka L and Ithaca of good numbers in migration as compared with last few years—e.g., 30 seen Oct 14 near Brooktondale, Tomp Co (HF). Kinglets: unusual numbers of both species noted everywhere from mid-Oct to mid-Nov; best dates at Burdett, Oct 23–24 (JBa). Pipits: in migration, Ithaca area, Oct 12. Loggerhead Shrike: only reports: one, Ithaca area Aug 22 (DM); one Sep 12 Burdett-Logan area (JBa).

**VIREOS—SPARROWS:** Solitary Vireo observed bathing by flying into and out of water, Oct 10 (MS). No heavy Warbler migration noted, but some movement in Ithaca area Sep 5–8. Cardinal: many comments on an apparent sharp decrease in

numbers throughout Region. Evening Grosbeaks were being noted flying over, and in hilly regions by mid-October, first came to feeders early November, but not in large numbers. Pine Grosbeak: first reports Nov 10. Common Redpoll: fairly large flocks Nov 1 on, feeding in tree-tops on seeds and buds, esp. birch. Pine Siskin: mid-October on, but in varying numbers in different parts of Region. White-winged Crossbill: small flocks from Nov 1 on, on road-sides and in hemlocks. Red Crossbill: no marked invasion yet. Vesper Sparrow: max 15 Oct 14 near Brooktondale, Tomp Co (HF). Oregon Junco: one, Nov 6, Elmira (ER). Lincoln's Sparrow: one, Sep 29, Texas Hollow (JBr); only one in Elmira tower kill this year. Snow Bunting: small flocks in Nov in northern parts of Region.

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## REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

LESLIE E. BEMONT

The fall weather seemed rather wet but according to Weather Bureau records it was wet only by comparison with the earlier months of the year. The latter half of August had well above normal precipitation, but total September precipitation was only a little heavier than normal and very unevenly distributed. October's precipitation was slightly below normal and November's was decidedly low. There were significant storms August 18 and 26, September 13 and 24, October 7 and 22 and November 17. The last one produced the only appreciable snowfall, but the ground was bare again within a day or so. Well below normal average temperatures were recorded August 29 to 31, September 27 and 28, October 4 to 6 and 28 and 29 and November 2.

As usual the fall waterfowl migration was only sketchily reported, most observers being too prudent to share prime locations with hunters. Also as usual, the best records of the hawk migration were through the efforts of one person at Skyline in Tioga County, the only known location in the Region where appreciable concentrations can be seen with any consistency. Mrs. Williams would welcome help at the appropriate seasons.

The shorebird migration was especially light, even for this Region, but the small land bird migration was roughly normal in volume. Sapsuckers, small flycatchers and the brown-backed thrushes seemed low in numbers, but Red-breasted Nuthatches, Bluebirds and both kinglets were quite numerous. Using the Myrtle Warbler as an indicator, vireo and warbler numbers were good. Magnolia and Wilson's Warblers were the only other species reported in good numbers but the identification problem makes species by species evaluation on the basis of negative results almost useless.

Winter finch prospects look promising. With the exception of the Red Crossbill, every species to be reasonably expected has been reported, but only Evening Grosbeaks and Pine Siskins in large numbers.

Rarities were Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Gray Jay and Golden Eagle.

Observers: LA—Mrs. L. Atkinson, LB—L. Bemont, DB—D. Bendle, MC—M. Cubberly, C, JD—C. & J. Davis, M, AD—M. & A. Davis, L, WD—L. & W. Dean, RD—R. Dirig, AE—A. Evelin, GF—G. Field, CG—C. Gerould, SG—S. Gorton, JG—J. Grant, JAG—J. A. Gustafson, MH—M. Hills, CH—C. Howard, PK—P. Kalka, FL—F. Linaberry, HM—H. Marsi, AM—A. Morey, FN—F. Newman, JO—J. Osadchey, RP—R. Pantle, FQ—F. Quick, MS—M. Sheffield, RPS—R. P. Sheffield, RS—R. Short, AS—A. Stratton, E, NW—E. & N. Washburn, DW—D. Weber, MW—M. White, R, SW—R. & S. White, EW—E. Williams, RW—R. Williams, HW—H. Wisner.

Abbreviations used: CC—Choconut Center; CVSP—Chenango Valley State Park; IH—Ingraham Hill; Res—Reservoir; Skan L—Skaneateles Lake; Sky—Skyline, Tioga County; WP—Whitney Point.

**LOONS—DUCKS:** Common Loon: first, Oct 16 Sky (RW); max 93 (52 in 1 hour) Nov 1 Sky (RW); two Nov 6 Pepacton Res (MC); calling Nov 28, Skan L (JG). Horned Grebe: one, late Aug Skan L (JO); migrants, WP from Oct 2 (SG) to Oct 24 (PK), and from several other localities between. Pied-billed Grebe: Sep 24 Greene (C, JD) to Oct 17 Norwich (R, SW); several other reports between. Green Heron: a rather late one, Oct 24 Sherburne (R, SW). **YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON:** two, Oct 4 Endwell (PK), whitish crown, gray body, eye within black stripe, longer legs than Black-crowned—subadult by brown stripes on upper breast; second record for Region. American Bittern: one, Oct 24 Sherburne (R, SW)—only fall report.

Whistling Swan: 15, Oct 28 Sky (RW), flying over. Canada Goose: heaviest flights from Oct 1 to 25; last, Nov 13, Sherburne (SG et al). Brant: three, Oct 27 Sky (RW), with Canada Geese. Snow Goose: one, Oct 27 Sky (RW) in small flock of Canada Geese. Green-winged Teal: max 35, Sep 25 Owego (MW, RW). Blue-winged Teal: 25–30, Oct 23 Cannonsville Res (HW), latest and best concentration. American Widgeon: Nov 28, Skan L (JG). Redhead: only small numbers. Canvasback: only small numbers. Lesser Scaup: a few on Skan L in Oct (JO), only report. Common Goldeneye: Oct 17, CVSP (FL). Bufflehead: three, Nov 14 Owego (RW); four, Nov 17 Norwich (R, SW). Oldsquaw: one male, Nov 6 Pepacton Res at Andes (MC), the only one. Ruddy Duck: one female, Nov 19 Owego (RW), the only one. Common Scoter: one, all day Oct 5 Norwich (R, SW)—scoter shape, all black except orange on bill. White-winged Scoter: Oct 9 WP (SG, et al). Hooded Merganser: 13, Oct 28 Skan L (JO) and two late Nov reports. Common Merganser: 14, Oct 10 and 10, Nov 6 East Sidney Dam (HW); “lots” Pepacton Res (MC).

**HAWKS—OWLS:** Turkey Vulture: two, Oct 28 Sky (RW). Goshawk: one, Nov 26 near Homer (GF); second hand reports of fairly frequent sightings in Nov just east of Unadilla (HW). Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 13, Sep 11 Sky (RW). Red-shouldered Hawk: three, Oct 4 IH (CH); Oct 27 Owego (RW); the only fall reports. Broad-winged Hawk: max 190, Sep 11 Sky (RW); last date Oct 26, Sky (RW). Rough-legged Hawk: one, Oct 29, Sky (RW); one, Nov 30, South Owego (CG). **GOLDEN EAGLE:** one adult, Oct 27, Owego (RW)—“From the porch, with 20 x scope, I watched it in full sunlight for about 8 minutes circling about 200 ft. above the ground. I could see the golden sheen on the head down to the shoulders, the lighter base of the tail, the dark wing linings. Flight direction from north to southwest followed approximately the same route as the fall hawk flights.” Bald Eagle: three reports of imm birds in Owego area in early Sep (DB, RW, CG); an adult over Pepacton Res three times, Sep 6 to Nov 14 (MC); two, Oct 14 Cortland (FN). Marsh Hawk: several reports, in ones and twos, during Sep and Oct. Osprey: Aug 23, Chenango Forks (M, AD) and Owego (MW); last, Oct 3 at Owego, Union and Sherburne; fairly frequent reports between. Peregrine Falcon: two, Oct 28 Scott in Cortland Co (JO). Pigeon Hawk: one, Sep 11 and one, Sep 24 Sky (RW).

Bob-white: a pair, Aug 16 to 18, CC (MS, RPS). Turkey: Nov 30, Owego (CG). Virginia Rail: Sep 4, IH (CH). Common Gallinule: Oct 3 Endicott (FL). American Coot: seven, Vestal (CH), were there several weeks; five, Oct 24 Sherburne (R, SW), the last; two earlier Oct records. Killdeer: mostly gone after Nov 1; two, Nov 30, Norwich (R, SW). Common Snipe: at Sherburne to Oct 18 (R, SW). Spotted Sandpiper: Oct 13, Campville (RW, MW)—only fall report. Solitary Sandpiper: two, Aug 27 Newark Valley (LB). Lesser Yellowlegs: two, Aug 27 Newark Valley (LB), no others. Greater Yellowlegs: one, Sep 19 Sherburne (R, SW); Oct 6 Candor (DW); only reports. Least Sandpiper: one, Aug 18 Sherburne (R, SW), no others.

Short-billed Dowitcher: several, Oct 24 Upper Lisle (PK). Semipalmated Sandpiper: one, Aug 18 Sherburne (R, SW), no others. Herring Gull: reappeared in usual small numbers about Aug 15. Ring-billed Gull: Oct 9, WP (SG, et al); 300 plus, Nov 26 Cortland (JAG).

Mourning Dove: numbers seem low. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: last, Sep 26, Hancock (RD). Black-billed Cuckoo: last, Sep 25 Greene (C, JD); only 3 reports in Sep. Screech Owl: only 3 reports during period. Barred Owl: only reports, Candor (DW), Ludlow in Chenango Co (AS), Hancock (RD).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Nighthawk: flocking over Endicott Aug 26 and 27; one, Sep 29, Endicott (LB), catching insects around lights at an athletic contest. Chimney Swift: irregular after Aug 29; six Oct 5 Cortland (FN). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Aug 29, Hancock (RD), a pronounced wave; regular reports until Sep 29, Binghamton (RS). Belted Kingfisher: decidedly less numerous after Sep 26, although present to end of period. Yellow-shafted Flicker: irregular after Oct 15; Nov 6, CVSP (SG, et al). Red-headed Woodpecker: Oct 23, Owego (AE). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: few reports; last, Sep 28 Owego (RW). Eastern Kingbird: regular at Oxford to Sep 11 (AS); two, Sep 23, East Homer (LA), only later report. Eastern Phoebe: irregular after Oct 10, last Oct 27. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: banded Sep 17, Binghamton (HM); Sep 21, IH (CH). Wood Pewee: Oct 5 Greene (C, JD). Olive-sided Flycatcher: Aug 16, CC (RPS); Sep 2, IH (CH). Tree Swallow: Oct 8 Owego (AE). Bank Swallow: Sep 15 Apalachin (MW, RW). Barn Swallow: Sep 23 Owego (AE). Cliff Swallow: 30, Sep 9 Norwich (R, SW), on telephone wires. Purple Martin: three, Sep 15 East Homer (LA).

GRAY JAY: two, Nov 25, Hancock (RD), seen separately—Blue Jay size, gray, white on top of head, no crest-field note requested. Tufted Titmouse: Nov 6, CVSP (SG, et al); Nov 18 and 19, Cortland (JG). Red-breasted Nuthatch: scattered reports in late Aug and early Sep; from Sep 18 to end of period seen regularly almost everywhere. House Wren: Oct 10 Sidney (FQ), only report after Sep 30. Winter Wren: Oct 4 Endwell (FL), the first of several reports in Triple Cities and Owego areas. Mockingbird: two, Aug 20 to Sep 16 and one to Oct 9, Oxford (AS); two, Sep 2 Owego (MH); one, Oct 2 Chenango Forks (SG). Catbird: Oct 13, IH (CH). Brown Thrasher: Nov 8, CC (MS, RPS). Robin: thinned out considerably after Nov 6. Wood Thrush: one, Oct 22, Cortland (AM), only one after Sep 26. Hermit Thrush: only fall records, Oct 3 Endwell (LB) and Oct 23 Binghamton (HM). Swainson's Thrush: several reports, Sep 5 to Oct 3. Gray-cheeked Thrush: three reports, Sep 5 Endwell (LB) to Oct 7 Binghamton (HM). Veery: Sep 3 CVSP (M, AD). Eastern Bluebird: good numbers all thru Oct; two, Nov 3 Owego (AE). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: Sep 21, IH (CH); one, Oct 6 Newark Valley (L, WD). Golden-crowned Kinglet: 12, Aug 28 Pharsalia (R, SW); next report Oct 4. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Sep 9 Chenango Forks (M, AD) to one, Nov 26 Homer (GF); most reports between Oct 2 and Nov 7. Cedar Waxwing: diminished numbers after Sep 26, then increased again during last week of Oct; 180 plus, Oct 31, CC (MS, RPS); numbers diminished even further by end of period. Northern Shrike: Nov 6, Candor (RP); two later records. Loggerhead Shrike: one, Aug 22, IH (CH), allowed approach to 15 feet in guarding a snake draped over a fence; one, Sep 3 Andes (MC). Starling: flock of 5000, Oct 14 Hancock (RD), unusual concentration in that area.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: last, Sep 19 Chenango Forks (M, AD). Solitary Vireo: Oct 13, IH (CH), only fall record. Philadelphia Vireo: Sep 24, Owego (RW). Warbling Vireo: last, Sep 6, Norwich (R, SW).

Warblers—Tennessee: Sep 18, Candor (RP). Nashville: one, Sep 24 Hancock (RD), fluttering at a window at 11:00 p.m.; last Oct 3. Parula: Sep 24 Owego (RW). Yellow: last, Sep 4 South Owego (AE). Magnolia: Sep 2, IH (CH) to Sep 22, Owego (RW) in reasonably good numbers. Cape May: Sep 19 to 26, Chenango Forks (M, AD); one record between from elsewhere. Black-throated Blue: Sep 18,

Chenango Forks (M, AD). Myrtle: Sep 9 to Nov 13 in good numbers; only later record, Nov 30, IH (CH). Black-throated Green: to Sep 29. Blackburnian: to Sep 29. Chestnut-sided: to Oct 2. Pine: Sep 24 and 29, Owego (RW). Palm: one, Oct 3, WP (E, NW). Ovenbird: to Oct 2. Connecticut: one, Sep 18 Binghamton (HM); Sep 24 Owego (RW); one, Oct 3 Endwell (LB, MS, HM). Mourning: Aug 22, CC (MS, RPS). Yellowthroat: to Oct 13. Wilson's: from Sep 1 Binghamton (HM) to two, Oct 15 Owego (RW) in surprisingly good numbers. Canada: to Sep 19. American Redstart: a late one, Oct 2 Homer (JAG).

**BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS:** Eastern Meadowlark: common to Nov 9. Red-winged Blackbird: common to Oct 27. Orchard Oriole: Oct 9, IH (CH). Baltimore Oriole: Sep 27 Owego (AE); the only report after Sep 15. Rusty Blackbird: Oct 20, IH (HM). Common Grackle: common to Oct 31. Scarlet Tanager: Sep 29 Owego (EW).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: to Sep 23 Sidney (FQ). Evening Grosbeak: Oct 9 Candor (RP); very frequent reports to end of period, in flocks of up to 60. Purple Finch: only scattered reports of small numbers. Pine Grosbeak: Nov 3 Chenango Forks (M, AD); seen fairly frequently in flocks of a dozen or less. Common Redpoll: Nov 14 South Owego (MW, CG); just a few reports. Pine Siskin: Oct 2 Conklin Forks (PK); quite frequent reports to end of period, sometimes in very considerable numbers. American Goldfinch: common to end of period. White-winged Crossbill: Oct 31, Candor (DW); reported all during Nov, becoming more numerous in the last five days. Rufous-sided Towhee: last, one Nov 1 Homer (JAG). Vesper Sparrow: fairly frequent reports to Oct 19; Nov 15 Newark Valley (MW, RW). Slate-colored Junco: common from Oct 1. Tree Sparrow: Oct 29, Andes (MC) and Binghamton (HM). Chipping Sparrow: to Oct 30, CC (MS, RPS). White-crowned Sparrow: Aug 30 Chenango Forks (M, AD); no more until Sep 29, Norwich (R, SW); fairly numerous but gone after Oct 30. Fox Sparrow: Oct 2 Conklin Forks (PK); small numbers to Nov 21. Lincoln's Sparrow: one, Sep 2 singing at Andes (MC); one, Oct 4 Conklin Forks (PK); 5 other reports between. Snow Bunting: 60, Nov 22 IH (CH), only report.

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## REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

FRITZ SCHEIDER

A wonderful fall migration! Cool, dry weather thru late August to mid-September brought desultory migrant movement with better-than-average flights on August 26, September 2, 9 and 12. After the passage of a strong cold front on September 16–17, waves of warblers and vireos, with lesser numbers of thrushes and flycatchers flooded the woods, especially along Lake Ontario and immediately south of Syracuse, into early October. Notable waves occurred September 17–20, 23, 30, October 7, 9 and 10. During October, wet, warm and windy, flocks of sparrows, kinglets, icterids, and winter finches enlivened the now moist farmlands, weedy fields and hedgerows. Each passing cold front brought more and more winter birds, especially finches. Windstorms on October 3, 23 and 31 created havoc, but also produced some of the most exciting waterfowl watching in a decade (See Brant, Jaegers). A severe freeze (17° above) November 1 and 2 triggered the exodus of dabbling ducks, shorebirds, sparrows and icterids, and a 4–6" snowfall November 15–16 terminated many local landbird concentrations (Horned Lark, Robin, Pipit, residual icterids, late sparrows). The remainder of November, still wet, warm and windy, provided delightful days rich with winter finches, numerous mouse-raptors, and a scattering of half-hardies,

northern erratics and southern forms. Abundance of autumn song was noteworthy, most obvious in White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows but also heard from Hermit Thrush, Ruby-crowned Kinglet and Rusty Blackbird; Woodcock, Horned Lark and Vesper Sparrow were noted flight singing.

Positive fall features of note: 1) splendid Brant flight in late October; 2) very heavy flight of all three scoters; 3) incursions of Rough-legged Hawk and Northern Shrike with a few Snowy Owls; 4) excellent shorebird migration, notable for variety (12 species recorded in November); 5) impressive thrush-vireo-warbler flights (number of Orange-crowned Warblers was outstanding!); 6) heavy flight of Water Pipit and both kinglets; 7) irruption of winter finches noteworthy for the number of species; 8) marked late September—early October sparrow flight.

Negatives: 1) poor to very poor flights of Canada Geese, Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Redhead, Canvasback (now chronic with the last two); 2) marked paucity of accipiters and a rapidly growing scarcity of Screech Owls; 3) severe drop in normally common Common Snipe, Greater Yellowlegs, Dunlin—see shorebird article this issue; 4) complete absence of Short-eared Owls; 5) mediocre Ontario lakeshore swallow flights; 6) profound fall-off in numbers of Tree Sparrows, both on migration and wintering.

Rarities for the season may be divided into two groups: 1) those regularly reported largely because of intensive field work to find the few individuals—Peregrine Falcon, Purple and Buff-breasted Sandpipers, Hudsonian Godwit, Ruff, all three phalaropes, Parasitic Jaeger and Connecticut Warbler; 2) species that range from rare thru very rare to sporadic—Pomarine Jaeger, Black-legged Kittiwake, Boreal Owl, Boreal Chickadee and Bohemian Waxwing.

Two geographic notes—1) the continuing scarcity of any waterfowl (grebes, herons, ducks, gulls) on the western half of Oneida Lake; 2) the critical importance of the southeast corner of Lake Ontario (Texas to Port Ontario) as the junction of two major lakeshore migration routes.

Abbreviations: FHBS—Fair Haven Beach State Park on Lake Ontario; HIGMA—Howland's Island Game Management Area near Port Byron; SP—Sandy Pond; SSSP—Selkirk Shores State Park near Pulaski; S & VB—Sylvan and Verona Beaches, east end of Oneida Lake; TRGMA—Three Rivers Game Management Area near Baldwinsville; BBFS—B. P. Burt's feeder survey held the first week of Nov.

Observers: CA—C. Acland; DWA—D. W. Ackley; HHA—H. H. Aspinwall; J & BB—J. & B. Barker; JRB—J. R. Bart; VB—V. Billings; MEB—M. E. Bitz; GLC—G. L. Church; MLE—M. L. Estoff; EE—E. Evans; JRH—J. R. Haugh; WCL—W. C. Listman; DM—D. McIlroy; P & SP—P. & S. Paquette; DBP—D. B. Peakall; B & SP—B. & S. Peebles; JWP—J. W. Propst; MSR—M. S. Rusk; FGS—F. G. Scheider; RJS—R. J. Smith; CGS—C. G. Spies; SHS—S. H. Spofford; BS—B. Starr; IS—I. Stone; RT—R. Thomas; EV—E. VanDresar.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: first Sep 7, one Otisco L (BS)—early; max 33 (low) Oct 14, L Ontario. Red-throated Loon: singles Nov 10 SSSP (JWP) and Nov 20 Derby Hill (JWP, MLE)—only fall records. Red-necked Grebe: only report an imm Oct 14 Lakeview, L Ontario (RJS). Horned Grebe: first Oct 3 Derby Hill; max 370, Oct 14, L Ontario smacks of former fall flights. Pied-billed Grebe: max 12, Oct 28 Woodman's Pond near Hamilton (GLC) and ten Oct 21 HIGMA—low, max five at Beaver L, unusually low. Double-crested Cormorant: singles Sep 12 SP and Oct 13 and 17 Derby Hill (JRB, MLE, JWP); one found dead on Ontario shore Oct 17 (CGS, JRB). Great Blue Heron: max eight, Sep 17 Otisco L; very scarce on western half of Oneida L. Common Egret: one Sep 26 SP (GLC, R. Goodwin)—only report. Green Heron: max 20, Aug 24 Clay Swamp, singularly low after the high Jul—early Aug counts. No *Black-crowned Night Heron* reported this fall. Amer. Bittern: max two, Sep 30 SP.

Whistling Swan: seven Nov 13 FHBSP (JRH, MSR) and one Nov 14 Derby Hill—unusual in fall. Canada Goose: 700, Oct 4 Derby Hill; 2500 Oct 6, 1000 plus Oct 10, and 800 Oct 21 at HIGMA; max at Beaver L 700 plus Oct 2; no early Nov concentrations except 1000 plus Nov 13, HIGMA, probably residuals from the Oct flight. Brant: first, one Oct 3 Derby Hill (DWA, P &SP); a terrific late Oct flight with 9520 Oct 23 (MSR) and 3000 to 3500 Oct 24–26 (mob) at Derby Hill; 2500 Derby Hill and SSSP Oct 28 (WCL); last, 18 Nov 14 Mexico Pt (JWP, MLE); no reports away from L Ontario. Snow Goose: three Oct 23 Derby Hill (MSR) and 38 Nov 23 (high for so late) at SSSP (EE, MEB).

Mallard and Black Duck: 2200 and 1400 respectively Oct 30 HIGMA; 2000 plus Blacks Oct 10 HIGMA; very low counts in local marshes; max for Beaver L—200 Mallards and 300 Blacks Sep 27 (JWP)—not large; no Oneida L count of Blacks above 100, indicating how poor waterfowl conditions are there; 375 Mallards Nov 6, Otisco L (BS) and some 500 Mallards and 350 Blacks thru last half of Nov at Woodman's Pond (GLC) suggest an improvement of numbers with colder weather. Gadwall: max 340, Oct 30, HIGMA (FGS) is a Regional high; numerous local records of smaller numbers, e.g. 17 at FHBSP Nov 24, two Sep 25 SP. Pintail: very scarce (some observers saw *none* all fall); max 25, Oct 25 HIGMA; no L Ontario flight noted. Green-winged Teal: max 45 Oct 7 HIGMA; mostly ten-15/day (very poor). Blue-winged Teal: max 200 Sep 4–6, Oneida L (DWA); sharp decline in first week of Oct; last Nov 1, three, Woodman's Pond (GLC)—early. Amer. Widgeon: max 1000 plus, Oct 30 HIGMA; 150 at Beaver L Sep 27 and 335 at FHBSP Oct 24 but virtually absent from SP and Oneida L—why? Shoveler: max 70, Oct 30 HIGMA; very few elsewhere, even at FHBSP. Wood Duck: max 700 plus Sep 22 and 504 Oct 14, both Scott Swamp; 250, Oct 7 Clay Swamp; rather scarce at SP, max 34 Sep 18; last Nov 18, an injured female, Oneida L.

Redhead: max 110, Oct 21 HIGMA; unreported, Oneida L; Beaver L numbers very low (max 25, Oct 24). Ring-necked Duck: first Sep 28 Beaver L; max 560, Oct 7 Beaver L. Canvasback: very scarce; first Oct 17 Woodman's Pond (GLC); max 2000, Nov 14 Oneida L near Bridgeport—the flocks of 10–12,000 formerly reported there have been missing for seven years. Scaup: first major movement 750, Oct 3 Derby Hill; max 5200, Oct 23 SSSP and Derby Hill (MSR) and 3000, Oct 31 S & VB (MSR) seem good now but compared to 1954–57 figures are quite low. Common Goldeneye: first Oct 3 Derby Hill (early); max 525, Nov 10 SSSP to Derby Hill (JWP); heavy toll of this species and Brant taken by hunters along L Ontario. Oldsquaw: first and max 275 Oct 23 Derby Hill, part of a huge waterfowl flight dominated by Brant and scoters (MSR).

A very heavy flight of dark-winged scoters in late Oct, max 3350 (a phenomenal tally) Common Scoter—with some Surf Scoter—Oct 23 Derby Hill (MSR); 82 Surf Scoter, all imm or females, Oct 13, L Ontario (JWP) is a record high tally. Numerous counts of lesser numbers of both species along L Ontario, but unreported from Beaver L and just eight Common Scoters Oct 31 for the entire season on Oneida L. White-winged Scoter: first Oct 1 (late) SP; max 4700, Oct 23 Derby Hill (MSR), seven times previous high fall counts; smaller numbers on Onondaga L and Oneida L (GLC). Hooded Merganser: first, Sep 4 HIGMA; max 320 Nov 13 from FHBSP, HIGMA, Beaver L (JRH, MSR)—very good. Red-breasted Merganser: 2000 plus Oct 24, L Ontario shore—early for such numbers (FGS, RJS); max 4500 Oct 31 FHBSP to Oswego.

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: last Oct 10 (late) Snake Swamp, Oswego Co. Goshawk: a spate of records, all from L Ontario shore; first Oct 13, two Derby Hill (JRH, JWP); a total of six observed, probably involving four birds. Cooper's Hawk: total for Region seven—Sep 30, Oct 4, 7, 28, Nov 8, 26, 28, 30 (EV, J & BB, FGS, VB); extremely scarce now, even in migration. No late Oct flights of Red-tailed Hawk noted despite increased watching along eastern end of L Ontario (JRH);

max eight, Nov 13 HIGMA and FHBSP, probably wintering birds. Rough-legged Hawk: first Oct 24 (late) one, Texas; 14-20 birds present in Texas-Port Ontario sector with lesser numbers of Red-tailed Hawks, Harriers, and Kestrels; elsewhere, only one-two/day in Nov. No eagles for entire period—a tragic decline. Marsh Hawk: a modest flight—ten, most imm, Oct 14 Beaver L area (FGS, RJS) and seven Oct 20 Derby Hill (JWP); 16 reported in Nov, in contrast to their absence last Nov. Osprey: first migrant Sep 9 SP; max 11 Sep 30 SP (MLE, JWP, DM, SHS)—excellent fall flight; last Oct 15 (early) two, Otisco L (R. Post). Peregrine Falcon: only report, one imm Sep 30 near SP (MLE, JWP); might this paucity of migrants portend a decline of Arctic birds similar to the disastrous decline of the Appalachian population? Merlin: only two reported, Sep 8 and 30; is this species going the way of the Peregrine? Sparrow Hawk: no fall flight detected along the SP dunes.

Ruffed Grouse: numbers in local woodlots up somewhat, max 12 Nov 15, SSSP to Mexico Pt (JWP). Sora: an imm Oct 27 Bolivar Swamp (MSR)—very late.

Shorebirds: see article in this issue.

Parasitic Jaeger: a remarkable count of 19, Oct 3 along with three POMARINE JAEGERS on a fierce 45 mph NW wind at Derby Hill (P & SP, DWA, FGS); one of each reported there Oct 13 and Oct 26 respectively (JWP); an unidentified jaeger seen there Oct 28 (WCL); unreported from SP. Great Black-backed Gull: first Aug 19 SP; no build-up in numbers (20+) until late Oct; max 70 Nov 21 SP (MSR). Along L Ontario 24 dead Herring and 135 dead Ring-billed Gulls collected Aug 21-22 (CGS, JRB) may be a result of rat-poisoning programs at lakeshore dumps. Ring-billed Gull: max 4000, Oct 3, jammed into Mexico Bay by NW gale. Bonaparte's Gull: max 100 Sep 12 S & VB (DWA) and 166 Nov 18 Oneida L—excellent counts for Oneida L; max L Ontario, 60, Oct 3, a result of the NW gale. BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE: imm Derby Hill (FGS et al) and one imm SSSP (JWP, MLE) both Nov 14—the second observations this year but only the third in 11 years. Common Tern: very abundant; max on Oneida L 300 Sep 4 and 500 Sep 6, S & VB (DWA); max along L Ontario 700 plus Oct 3, Oswego to Derby Hill (P & SP, DWA); last Oct 14 (early) L Ontario. Caspian Tern: marked flight with 45 Sep 9 and 18, also 40 Sep 12—all SP inlet; two-five/day reported from Onondaga L (JWP) Aug 19-26.

Mourning Dove: widely reported, flocks seven-30/day Aug thru Oct; max 89, combined tally HIGMA, Beaver L, and TRGMA Oct 21; many records in Nov, probably due to scant snow cover and abundant weed seed crop. Screech Owl: markedly down; max seven for entire period; another victim of pesticides?—unreported from many known local sites (BS, JRH, JWP, FGS). Snowy Owl: first, one Nov 7 Onondaga L (Mary Woolley); singles reported thereafter from Onondaga L, Syracuse Airport and SP, involving just three birds. Barred Owl: reported repeatedly at a new station near Eaton Sep 22-Oct 11 (GLC). BOREAL OWL: one, Nov 21, Nine Mile Point, Oswego Co. (MSR)—second Regional record in four years. (Field note in May issue)

SWIFTS—STARLING: Nighthawk: max 85, Sep 5 Syracuse Airport—none reported thereafter. Chimney Swift: last Oct 6 (late) one, HIGMA (MSR). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 19, Sep 18, SP and SSSP; last Sep 24 (early) Catfish Creek (IS, RT). Belted Kingfisher: one-six/day Sep and Oct; many scattered reports into late Nov (mild weather). Yellow-shafted Flicker: flight in progress on Sep 9; max 140, Sep 18, SP and SSSP; rather scarce in Oct, max 20, Oct 10; many singles in Nov. Red-bellied Woodpecker: many scattered reports; appears to be increasing locally—new sites at Jack's Reef, Lysander, Beaver L; more at Fish Gulf near Amber (max three Oct 6, JWP); max five Oct 30 HIGMA, a regular station, no apparent increase on L Ontario shore. Eastern Kingbird: no high tallies in late Aug; last Sep 14, two, HIGMA. Eastern Phoebe: max 12 Sep 30 SP (DM, SHS); widely reported next ten days; last Nov 22 (late) one, Nine Mile Pt. (JWP). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: eight Sep 3-23, most from L Ontario woodlots. Eastern Wood Pewee: max

34, Sep 18, SP and SSSP; last Oct 2 (early) one, SSSP. Olive-sided Flycatcher: singles only, both Sep 9, Syracuse (MSR) and Fish Gulf (JWP). Horned Lark: flight period Oct 10–Nov 12, 35–150/day, majority on short-grass prairie at Syracuse Airport. The enormous swallow flights along the SP dunes were not observed this year; instead a reverse (i.e. northbound) migration Sep 16 of some 4500 Tree Swallows (DWA, CA, FGS) was the most notable feature. Barn Swallow: max roost 20,000 at Clay Swamp Aug 24 (DWP). Bank Swallow: max 1350 with 750 Barn Sep 5, SP dunes (MSR). Last dates: Tree—Oct 13, Derby Hill; Barn and Cliff—Sep 18 (very early) SP; Bank—Sep 30, SP; Purple Martin—Sep 18, SSSP.

Black-capped Chickadee: 60–75/day in Ontario lakeshore woods Sep 3–Oct 10; no late Oct flight detected; wintering numbers appear normal. Boreal Chickadee: one, Derby Hill in late Oct (Al Maley fide WCL); first reported (two+) in a mixed deciduous-coniferous woods near Westmoreland Nov 7 (B & SP), max 15–18 there Nov 11 with lesser numbers, three-eight/day, thru Nov 30; no others. Tufted Titmouse: singles, SP dunes Sep 25 (OAS field trip) and Phoenix Nov 20 (EE); reported from feeder and woodlots at Brewerton (R. Theisen, FGS) and Fulton (E. Little, E. Cook). Red-breasted Nuthatch: first migrants Sep 2, eight, SP dunes; this flight (four-12/day) virtually over by fourth week of Sep; reported in smaller numbers (two-ten/day) widely in coniferous plantations and woodlots (Westmoreland, Highland Forest, SSSP, Otisco area). Brown Creeper: first migrant Sep 11; peak of 20 Sep 26 to seven Oct 10.

Winter Wren: first fall, Sep 9, SSSP; max 17, Oct 10, SP dunes; many Nov records. Carolina Wren: one Sep 30 to late Nov at Oneida (P. Wayland Smith); singles Sep 14 Fish Gulf (JWP) and Oct 25 New Hartford (VB). Long-billed Marsh Wren: counts of 12–19/day, SP marshes in mid-Sep; last, Oct 10 (very early) at SP. Mockingbird: two (? three), Fayetteville (Mrs. W. Robertson) first week of Nov; one, Solvay, early Oct (McChesney); unreported elsewhere, probably because mild Nov weather and abundant berry crop kept birds away from feeders. No major movement of Catbird or Brown Thrasher detected; apparently the severe freeze of Nov 1–2 pushed the few tardy migrant mimids out; only one Brown Thrasher in Nov, at feeder (BBFS).

Amer. Robin: heavy protracted flight from mid-Sep (110–250/day) to Oct 20 (500 at Tully); early wave Aug 14–Sep 15 at Rome and Taberg (HHA); numerous small groups (two-12/flock) reported thru Nov. Hermit Thrush: first migrant Sep 10, Otisco L (BS); many early Oct reports with max 12, Oct 10, SP dunes and Derby Hill woods; one singing at Syracuse Nov 8. Swainson's and Gray-cheeked Thrushes, Veery: an enormous flight the night of Sep 16–17 with thousands of Swainson's and Veeries and hundreds of Gray-cheeked/15-min at N Syracuse (CA, FGS) and Syracuse (JWP); on Sep 24, another huge flight 450/15-min, largely Gray-cheeked but including some Swainson's, at Syr (MSR); no ground counts or tower kills approached these numbers, but both Swainson's and Gray-cheeked were reported more frequently than usual; last Swainson's Oct 17 Kenwood, last Gray-cheeked Sep 27 (very early) N Syr. Bluebird: still *very scarce*, usually one-four/day, most records Sep 23–Oct 25; max 16 Aug 23 at Taberg (D. Lynes) probably represents flocking of locally reared birds.

Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned Kinglets: very heavy lakeshore flight, 100 and 200 respectively Oct 8, 120 and 180 respectively Oct 26, all from SSSP and Derby Hill; Golden-crowned Kinglets quite scarce in Nov, averaging three-12/day. Water Pipit: heavy fall movement; first Sep 11, SP; 25–200/day at Syr Airport Oct 7–Nov 2; max 800, Oct 28 near Tully, “a confused mass of birds grounded by a hill-country snowstorm” (JWP); last Nov 5 (a bit early). BOHEMIAN WAXWING: one with flock of Cedar Waxwings and Pine Grosbeaks at Derby Hill Nov 10 (JWP)—only report this year. Cedar Waxwing: marked influx Sep 11–Oct 14 (20–200/day); smaller flocks (three-80) thru Nov with larger counts along L Ontario shore. Northern Shrike: first Oct 21, an imm, TRGMA somewhat early; some 25 plus

individuals recorded thereafter, the majority imm.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: Oct 8 (late) one, Derby Hill (JWP). Solitary Vireo: max four Sep 18, SP and SSSP; reported widely but in small numbers mid-Sep to early Oct. Philadelphia Vireo: 13 Sep 9–24, the majority in the great waves of Sep 17–20; one dead, Pompey TV tower Oct 8 (JRB)—very late. Warbling Vireo: one dead Oct 11, Pompey TV tower, a record late date (JRB).

The enormous amount of fall warbler data is summarized in the following table:

	<i>Arrival Date</i>	<i>Peak Date</i>	<i>Departure Date</i>
Black-and-white	Aug 29, 1, SSSP	5, Sep 19, SP-SSSP	Oct 5, 1*, TV tower
Tennessee	Aug 19, 1 SP	14, Sep 18, SP-SSSP	Oct 2, 1, SSSP
Orange-crowned	Sep 24, 1, Fish Gulf	4, Oct 7, Beaver L & TRGMA	Oct 10, 1, Derby Hill
Nashville	Aug 20, 1, SSSP	20, Sep 2, SP-SSSP; 20, Sep 17, Syr	Oct 11, 2*, TV tower
Parula	Aug 29, 1, SSSP	6, Sep 23, SSSP	Oct 10, 1, SP dunes
Yellow	.....	45, Aug 26, SP dunes	Oct 2, 1, SP dunes
Magnolia	Aug 26, 2, SP	54, Sep 18, SP-SSSP	Oct 11, 1*, TV tower
Cape May	Sep 12, 1, Syr	2, Sep 17, Otisco L	Sep 18, 2, SP-SSSP
Black-thr. Blue	Aug 31, 1, Catfish Creek	2, Sep 12, 17, 18, SP & Delta L	Oct 17, 3*, TV tower
Myrtle	Sep 6, 1, Syr	48, Oct 14, Derby Hill HIGMA	Nov 17, 1, Hamilton
Black-thr. Green	Aug 29, 1, Syr	83, Sep 18, SP-SSP; 75, Sep 19, SSSP	Oct 10, 1, SP dunes
Blackburnian	Aug 26, 1, SP	7, Sep 18, SP-SSSP	Oct 6, 1, N Syr
Chestnut-sided	Aug 26, 3, SP	15, Sep 19, SSSP & Mexico Pt	Sep 24, 2, Fish Gulf
Bay-breasted	Aug 26, 3, SP	25, Sep 19, SSSP & Mexico Pt	Sep 30, 3*, TV tower
Blackpoll	Aug 26, 2, SP	47, Sep 18, SP-SSSP	Oct 3, 3*, TV tower
Palm	Sep 5, 2, SP	2, Sep 9, Fish Gulf; 2, Oct 21, Stevens Pond	Oct 24, 1**, Port Ontario
Ovenbird	.....	6, Sep 12, Delta L	Sep 30, 1*, TV tower
N. Waterthrush	Aug 19, 1, SP	2, Aug 26, SP dunes	Oct 1, 1, Tully
Yellowthroat	.....	30, Sep 18, SP-SSSP	Oct 21, 1, Beaver L
Wilson's	Aug 26, 1, SP	53, Sep 18, SP-SSSP	Oct 11, 2*, TV tower
Canada	Aug 27, 1, Syr	5, Sep 2, SP-SSSP	Sep 19, 1, SSSP
Redstart	.....	8, Sep 20, Fish Gulf	mid-Nov, 1, Westvale

\* freshly dead bird

\*\* hypochrysea form

Most outstanding were the lack of clear-cut arrival waves, the concentration of the peak dates of most species on Sep 17–20, and the clustering of last dates around Oct 10–11, correlating with cold weather. The Redstart and Yellow Warbler departure dates are quite late. The scarcity of Cape May and Black-throated Blue Warblers and Redstarts stands out in contrast to the many high tallies of other species.

Golden-winged Warbler: one, Aug 26, SP dunes again—where do they come from? Connecticut Warbler: four individuals Sep 7–19, SP, SSSP, Fish Gulf; an adult male captured at TV tower Sep 7 (JRB). Hooded Warbler: reported first week of Sep, Derby Hill (JRH); Fish Gulf, Sep 17, one; Sep 18 and 19, two and one respectively, SSSP.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: one dead at Pompey TV tower Sep 30—somewhat late (JRB). Meadowlark: eight-15/day Oct 2–12 mainly from TRGMA and Beaver L area. The enormous Clay Swamp icterid roost held some 40,000 Red-winged Blackbirds 20,000 Grackles and 30,000 Starlings Oct 9; the huge flocks persisted until the Nov 1–2 freeze; many smaller flocks of black icterids remained until the heavy snowfall of Nov 15–16. Baltimore Oriole: one male, Nov 1, Mattydale is probably attempting to winter. Rusty Blackbird: first Sep 12, two, SP; counts of

60-75/day Oct 10-21; max 200, Oct 28, grounded by snow near Tully (cf. Water Pipit). Cardinal: increasingly common, now filling in gaps in range north of Syracuse and along L Ontario; max 20, Oct 28, Tully Farms Rd, probably local birds forced to road edges by snow.

First winter finch flight, Pine Siskins (Oct 6) and Evening Grosbeaks (Oct 7). Pine Siskin: 12-75/day with max 300, Oct 24 SSSP; Nov numbers much smaller. Evening Grosbeak: widely reported; 40-120 thru Oct and Nov (Utica, Oneida, Eaton, Derby Hill, Holland Patent, Syracuse). The Oct flight also included large numbers of Goldfinches with 75-150/day Sep 30-Oct 21, but Nov numbers were very low (one-30/day). Redpoll and White-winged Crossbill arrived on Oct 30. A large flight (750 plus) of Redpolls Nov 6 along L Ontario (MSR) was followed by many smaller groups throughout Region (Utica 300 on Nov 20, J & BB; Oneida 150 and 170, Nov 12 and 24 respectively, DWA, B & SP; Derby Hill 150 Nov 11). White-winged Crossbill: 30-250/day at Syracuse, Oneida (DWA, B & SP), Westmoreland (B & SP, J & BB), Eaton (GLC), Oneida L (DWA), and Cicero Swamp. The last to arrive were Pine Grosbeaks, Nov 6 at Westmoreland and Nov 8 at Derby Hill; max 45 Nov 11 (JRH) and 42 Nov 20 (JWP, MLE), both SSSP and Derby Hill; numerous reports of lesser numbers panregionally. Red Crossbill: singles only, Nov 8-9, Cicero Swamp.

The early-Oct sparrow flights peak counts clustered sharply Oct 7-14. Particularly productive were weed fields at TRGMA, Lysander, Beaver L, and marshy lands and brushy hedgerows along L Ontario at Derby Hill and Texas. Notable tallies: Oct 7-55 Vesper, 50 Field, 65 White-crowned, 250 White-throated, 25 Swamp and 180 Song, TRGMA to Beaver L; Oct 8-280 Junco, 140 White-crowned, 210 White-throated, 300 Song, TRGMA to Derby Hill; Oct 10-30 Savannah, 35 Vesper, 120 Junco, 225 Chipping, 65 Field, 65 White-crowned, 350 White-throated, 160 Swamp, 350 Song, Derby Hill, SSSP, and Drybridge Rd; Oct 14-30 Savannah, ten Vesper, 100 Junco, 80 White-crowned, 115 White-throated, Derby Hill, Beaver L, HIGMA; numbers dropped sharply in the next ten days but individuals and, in some cases, small flocks of Field, White-throated, Swamp, and Song Sparrows persisted until the severe freeze Nov 1-2. Tree Sparrow: late in arriving, Oct 21, four, Stevens Pond; astonishingly scarce, three-ten/day; max 50, Nov 13 HIGMA (MSR, JRH). Fox Sparrow: first Oct 2, Big Moose L (CA, DBP); counts quite low, one-five/day; unreported after mid-Nov. Lincoln's Sparrow: first migrant Sep 14, one, Fish Gulf (JWP); some 26 individuals, one-four/day, most Sep 14-Oct 10. Lapland Longspur: first Oct 4, one, max 20 (excellent fall count) Nov 2, both Syracuse Airport. Snow Bunting: present in unusually large numbers; first Oct 14, two, Derby Hill; general arrival Oct 24, with flocks 35-600/day reported from Eaton, Derby Hill, SSSP, Syr Airport, SP, Oneida L, FHBSP, the majority in first half of Nov.

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## REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

DAVID C. GORDON

Rain fell on more than half the days during the reporting period to contrast greatly with a year ago when we were in the midst of a long drought. Rivers and creeks are running high, lake and pond margins have reverted to normal pre-drought levels. At Watertown, August rainfall was 3.41 in. above normal, September rainfall was slightly above normal, and in October it was .93 in. above normal. In early November there was more rain on several days. The first snowstorm on November 17th left four to six inches on the ground and by the 29th another four inches had fallen.

Late summer produced two more southerly species as surprises—a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher and a Golden-winged Warbler, both seen under good conditions by an observer familiar with them in their normal breeding range. The autumnal warbler migration was long and interesting in wooded and brushy areas as was the sparrow migration in agricultural areas.

Most exciting was the find of a Gyrfalcon shot by an ignorant duck hunter. The promise of a good winter for seeing northern birds was implied with the appearance of a Northern Three-toed Woodpecker on Nov. 11, and Snowy Owls, Roughlegs, Northern Shrikes and winter finches that were rare or absent last winter, such as Pine and Evening Grosbeaks and Redpolls.

In October the North Country Bird Club purchased 102 acres of mostly wooded land in Town of Rutland, seven miles east of Watertown for a wildlife sanctuary.

The NYS Conservation Dept has expanded PRGMA and is developing more wetland marsh along Perch River west of Route 12.

Localities: BCW—Brookside Cemetery, Watertown; CD—Camp Drum Military Reservation; ED—El Dorado; LJGMA—Littlejohn Game Management Area; NCBS—North Country Bird Club Sanctuary; PRGMA—Perch River Game Management Area; SB—Sherwin's Bay; Wat—Watertown; WC—Watertown Center.

Observers: AWA—Arthur W. Allen; JBB—John B. Belknap; DB—Don Blais; FAC—Frank A. Clinch; HED—Herbert E. Doig; EAF—Elizabeth A. Feldhusen; DCG—David C. Gordon; FS—Fritz Scheider; FWT—Fred W. Tucker; RCW—Robert C. Walker.

**LOONS—DUCKS:** Common Loon: singles near ED Nov 26 (DCG). Horned Grebe: common along L Ontario shore, Oct 16 to end of Nov (DCG). Great Blue Heron: at ED, PRGMA in Aug and Sep; last SB, Oct 23 (DCG); singles Pillar Pt and Pt Peninsula Nov 25 (AWA); Star Lake Nov 27 (RCW). Green Heron: last Oct 31 BCW (DCG). Black-crowned Night Heron: last adult Sep 18 SB (DCG); last imm Oct 10 BCW (DCG). Least Bittern: Sep 26 SB (AWA). American Bittern: ED Aug 21 (DCG).

Canada Goose: first, PRGMA Sep 29 (HED); flock of 60 southern Jeff. Co Oct 16 (DCG). Mallard and Black Duck: usual numbers Aug to end of Nov (DCG). Pintail: PRGMA Oct 9 and L Ontario Oct 16 (DCG); last Nov 26 PRGMA (JBB). Green-winged Teal: numerous ED Aug—Sep. Blue-winged Teal: hundreds ED Sep 25 (DCG). Am. Widgeon: 65, PRGMA Oct 9 (DCG). Shoveler: three, PRGMA Oct 9 (DCG); a pair ED Oct 10 (AWA). Wood Duck: good numbers this fall at PRGMA (HED). Greater Scaup: opening day of duck season Oct 16, thousands in rafts and streaming by in formation in Black River Bay (DCG); aerial count of 4000 in same area Nov 20 (DB). Common Goldeneye: hundreds off Stony Pt and ED during Nov (DCG). Bufflehead: Oct 16 to end of Nov ED and Stony Pt (DCG). Oldsquaw: approx. 100 between ED and Henderson Harbor Nov 26 (DCG). White-winged Scoter: three females Pillar Pt Nov 25 (AWA). Surf Scoter: one male and several females at Henderson Harbor Nov 26 (DCG). Common Scoter: three females Nov 11 Henderson Bay (RCW). Female mergansers numerous in L Ontario during period, species not positively identified.

**HAWKS—OWLS:** Turkey Vulture: last Oct 4 near Theresa (JBB). Cooper's Hawk: imm female Nov 11 Gouverneur (JBB). Red-tailed Hawk: noticeable movement Oct 16 in s. Jeff. Co (six seen —five together); singles to Nov 19 (JBB, DCG, RCW). Rough-legged Hawk: first Oct 23 Pt Peninsula; five Nov 13 near Stony Pt, three light phase and two dark phase (DCG); many seen Oct 25—Nov 29 seemed to be two main flights in period, max 11 in five miles just north of Wat Nov 29 (JBB). Marsh Hawk: to Nov 17 (JBB). **GYRFALCON:** dark phase imm female found shot at ED Nov 14 (RCW), photographed and carcass sent to state museum,

Albany; third record and first specimen from Jeff. Co. Sparrow Hawk: scattered singles to Nov 26 (DCG).

Gray Partridge: population seems to be fairly low this year (HED); four near Watertown Oct 9 (DCG). Turkey: five Wellesley I. Aug 18 (RCW); introduced 1960. Virginia Rail: PRGMA Aug 27 (DCG). Common Gallinule: last, Oct 9 PRGMA (DCG). Am. Coot: last, Oct 9 PRGMA (DCG).

The data on shorebird migration should be read in conjunction with the article by Fritz Scheider elsewhere in this issue. Semipalmated Plover: last Oct 10 ED (AWA). Killdeer: last Nov 6 Pt Salubrious (DCG). Golden Plover: two Aug 26 ED (FS), one Aug 29 ED (RCW). Black-bellied Plover: last Sep 25 ED, low numbers this fall (DCG). Ruddy Turnstone: last Oct 10 ED (AWA). Common Snipe: last Sep 25 ED (DCG). Spotted Sandpiper: last Sep 9 ED (FS). Solitary Sandpiper: to late Sep BCW (DCG). Greater Yellowlegs: last Oct 10 ED (AWA). Lesser Yellowlegs: last Sep 25 ED (DCG). Knot: one Aug 21 (DCG), two Aug 26 (FS) and one Sep 25 ED (DCG), No Purple Sandpiper. Pectoral Sandpiper: last Oct 10 ED (AWA). White-rumped Sandpiper: three Nov 13 ED, late (DCG). Baird's Sandpiper: one, Aug 19 (FS), five Aug 26 (FS), one Sep 25 (DCG), all ED. Least Sandpiper: last Sep 25 ED (DCG). Dunlin: 13, Nov 13 ED (DCG). Short-billed Dowitcher: four Aug 19 (FS), 11 Aug 26 (FS), two Sep 9 (FS), two Sep 11 (DCG), and one Sep 19 (AWA), all ED. Stilt Sandpiper: one Aug 21 and 26 ED (FS, DCG). Semipalmated Sandpiper: last Oct 10 ED (AWA). Sanderling: last Nov 13 ED (DCG). Red Phalarope: two singles Nov 13 at ED—third record for Jeff Co (DCG). Wilson's Phalarope: one Aug 19 ED (FS). Northern Phalarope: max 10 Sep 4 ED (DCG, RCW).

Great Black-backed Gull: first, three at ED Aug 21; common along L Ontario shore thru Nov (DCG). Herring and Ring-billed Gulls: common to abundant thru period, especially the latter on fresh-plowed fields in Oct (DCG). Bonaparte's Gull: last one Oct 30 Pt Salubrious (DCG). Common Tern: last Sep 11 ED (DCG). Caspian Tern: last Sep 19 ED (AWA). Black Tern: last Aug 21 ED (DCG). Great Horned Owl: near Gouverneur Nov 11–21 (JBB). Snowy Owl: one adult male Nov 6 Pt Peninsula (DCG); a female shot Nov 11 Pillar Pt, brought to school (FAC); one Nov 26 and three Nov 30 near SB (JBB). Barred Owl: Aug 18 near S. Edwards, St. Lawrence Co (AWA). Short-eared Owl: two near Philadelphia Nov 10 (JBB); one killed on road near Dexter Nov 22 (DB).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Common Nighthawk: more than a dozen active in one place, late afternoon Aug 17 Wat (DCG); 10–12 migrating Sep 4 Wat (FAC); two Sep 5 Massena (FAC). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last Sep 18 Pillar Pt (DCG). Yellow-shafted Flicker: heavy migration Sep 18 along L Ontario (DCG). Red-headed Woodpecker: three near ED Aug 11–21 (DCG); Nov 21 (very late) CD (AWA). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: two Sep 25 (DCG). Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers: usual numbers thru period. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: two singles—sex not reported—near Gouverneur Nov 1 and Nov 21 (JBB). NORTHERN THREE-TOED WOODPECKER: a male at WC Nov 11 (RCW) to Nov 14 (DCG) working silently on dead elms; the characteristic appearance of flaked bark on the trees indicated it had been there for several days; last known record in Jeff. Co was Mar 10, 1957.

Crested Flycatcher: last Aug 20 near Carthage (EAF). Phoebe: last Oct 23 Pt Peninsula (DCG). Horned Lark: small flocks on Pillar Pt and Pt Peninsula Oct 30, Nov 6 (DCG). Tree and Bank Swallow: migrating in early Sep. Barn Swallow: last Sep 18 PRGMA (DCG). Cliff Swallow: numerous along Middle Rd near Wat in Aug; last Sep 4 ED (DCG). Blue Jay: very common throughout Jeff Co during fall. Crow: long after the departure of most crows from our Region a flock of at least 48 seem to be wintering near Camps Mills Nov 13–26 as they do every winter in some areas favored with enough food (DCG). Black-capped Chickadee: although a common summer and winter resident, there was a very pronounced migration through

the county from late Sep at least to Oct 17. Boreal Chickadee: one Nov 11 ED (RCW)—rare. White-breasted Nuthatch: the statement about Black-capped Chickadees also applies to this species (DCG). In the evening of Sep 4 unusual activity of four nuthatches observed flying out from a tree and catching insects in mid-air like Cedar Waxwings; one went down to the ground and was chased back to a tree by a red squirrel (DCG). Red-breasted Nuthatch: seemed to be migratory movement in Sep and Oct: one at a feeder Nov 25 (DCG). Brown Creeper: also a noticeable fall migration during Sep and Oct; seen Nov 25 (DCG). House Wren: last Sep 25 CD (DCG). Winter Wren: last Sep 12 WC (DCG). Long-billed Marsh Wren: last Sep 18 SB (DCG). Mockingbird: Aug 25 Brier Hill, St. Lawrence Co (RCW). Brown Thrasher: Sep 25 CD (DCG); Nov 7 Wat (AWA). Hermit Thrush: last banded Oct 11 (FAC); Oct 16 LJGMA (DCG). Swainson's Thrush: banded Oct 2 (FAC). Veery: one banded Aug 27 (FAC). Bluebird: four PRGMA Sep 26 (AWA). BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER: one Aug 27 PRGMA, first record for Jeff. Co (DCG). Golden-crowned Kinglet: last Oct 31 (DCG). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: migration Sep 25—Oct 10 (DCG). Water Pipit: three Sep 19 ED (AWA); one Oct 23 Pt Peninsula; seemed scarce this fall (DCG). Cedar Waxwing: est, 100 on rose hedge Nov 6 Wat (DCG); wandering flocks thru Nov. Northern Shrike: first Oct 27 (JBB); scattered sightings thru Nov (AWA, JBB, DCG, RCW).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: last Oct 10 WC (DCG). Red-eyed Vireo: last Sep 25 CD (DCG). Black-and-white Warbler: last Sep 25 CD (DCG). GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER: one male Aug 18 NCBS, first Jeff. Co record (DCG). Nashville Warbler: last Sep 25 CD (DCG). Magnolia Warbler: migration Sep 19—Oct 10 (DCG). Black-throated Blue Warbler: last Sep 25 CD (DCG). Myrtle Warbler: last Nov 1 (JBB). Bay-breasted Warbler: last Oct 10 banded (FAC). Blackpoll Warbler: Sep 25 CD (DCG). Palm Warbler: migration Sep 19—Oct 30, very late (DCG). Yellowthroat: last Nov 21, very late (JBB). Wilson's Warbler: Sep 25–26 (DCG).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: flocking thru Aug; last Aug 27 est. 50 near PRGMA (DCG). Eastern Meadowlark: last Nov 30 Dekalb Jct. (RCW). Red-winged Blackbird: peak of migration Oct 9–16; a small flock Nov 6 Pt Peninsula (DCG). Rusty Blackbird: migration Oct 9 and Oct 16 (DCG). Common Grackle: more than 2000 near Pierrepont Manor Oct 15; hundreds near Worth Oct 16 (DCG); one at feeder Nov 14 (DCG). Brown-headed Cowbird: more than 1000 near Camps Mills Sep 25 (DCG). Scarlet Tanager: last Oct 2 (FAC). Cardinal: two males, two females and one imm early Oct WC (FWT); two males and two females Nov Wat (AWA). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last Sep 26 WC (DCG). Evening Grosbeak: 12 Oct 17 ED (EAF); first at feeders Nov 5, 8–10 Wat (AWA, FAC); small flocks at several feeders thru rest of Nov. Purple Finch: one female Oct 10 WC, three males and four females Oct 16 LJGMA (DCG). Pine Grosbeak: first Nov 23 CD (JBB); flock of 13 with one adult male Stony Pt and flock of 11 with two adult males Henderson Harbor feeding on white ash fruits Nov 26 (DCG). Common Redpoll: small flocks noted Nov 6 and Nov 13 (DCG); five at feeder Nov 18 (AWA); 150 near Theresa Nov 20 (DB). Red Crossbill: 6 or 7 near Brownville Nov 26 (AWA). Rufous-sided Towhee: last Worth Oct 16 (DCG). Savannah and Vesper Sparrows: migration peak Oct 9–10 (DCG). Slate-colored Junco: last Nov 27 (FAC). Tree Sparrow: first, Jeff Co, Oct 30 (AWA); not common before Nov 6. Chipping and Field Sparrows: migration peak Oct 9–10 (DCG). White-crowned Sparrow: migration Sep 27—Oct 23 (AWA, JBB, DCG). White-throated Sparrow: last Oct 23 (DCG). Fox Sparrow: Oct 16 LJGMA (DCG); Oct 31 (AWA). Swamp Sparrow: last Oct 16 (DCG). Song Sparrow: most common sparrow, migration Oct 9–23 (DCG). Lapland Longspur: three Oct 23 Pt Peninsula (DCG). Snow Bunting: 12 Oct 17 (EAF) early; 19 Oct 30 and Nov 6 Pt Salubrious (DCG); four Nov 13 ED (DCG).

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## REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK – CHAMPLAIN

HARRIET L. DELAFIELD

Weather for the fall migration period in this area was one of extreme ups and downs. After an overnight low of 41 degrees on Aug 24, on Aug 25 the temperature rose to 90; then on the night of Aug 31 there was a killing frost. Sep and Oct followed the same pattern: Sep 20, 74 degrees, Sep 28 frost killed the geraniums; "Little Summer of St Luke" on Oct 21; Oct 30 one inch of snow on the ground. Nov was cold and damp. On Nov 17 we had 14" of snow, the most since 1959–60. Ray Falconer said "real winter" at Saranac Lake and Ray Brook on that date.

A friend who has harvested cones around Vermontville for many years reported that Norway Pine and Red Spruce fruits were almost non-existent this year.

A Red-throated Loon was found on the road between Lake Placid and Keene on Nov 5 but it died soon after it was rescued. No large warbler waves were reported this fall, "black birds" and crows were noticeably down in numbers, Canada Geese came over early.

Unusual were: a Hawk Owl, Red-headed Woodpecker and Dickcissel.

Observers: AA—Agnes Amstutz; EA—Elizabeth Anderson; GC—Geoffrey Carleton; HD—Harriet Delafield; JMD—John and Margaret Dye; EE—Emily Easten; BF—Bill Frenette; WF—Wayne Fedder; GK—Grace Kains; JK—Joseph Keji; JH—Joseph Hart; RH—Robert Hagar DM—Dorothy McIlroy; GM—Gordon Meade; DP—David Peakall; RS—Richard Sheffield; DY—David Young.

Abbreviations: B—Brook; Mad-Ross—Madawaska and Ross Park; P—Pond; SL—Saranac Lake; TL—Tupper Lake.

**LOONS—DUCKS:** Common Loon: two adults with one young Elk L Sep 11 and 12 (JMD, RS); two imm Little Tupper L Sep 20 (AA). Horned Grebe: four Nov 15 Monty's Bay, L Champlain (JH). Pied-billed Grebe: one Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM); one Ray B Sep 4–24 (JK); three Ausable Marsh Sep 8 (JH); one Sep 16 and Oct 6 SL (HD). Great Blue Heron: nest discovered in marsh near Blue Mt L Aug 30 (BF); last Oct 13 Ray B (JK); one Santa Clara Oct 13, one Ausable Marsh thru Oct 17 (JH); two Sep 10 SL (GK); one L Clear Sep 30 (DY). Green Heron: one Tupper Marsh Aug 18 (RH). American Bittern: one, Piseco L Aug 30 (DM); one Sep 4 Mad-Ross (GM); two Sep 6 Ray B (JK); one Ausable Marsh Oct 16 (JH).

Canada Goose: started going over early in quite good numbers, 400 Sep 29 SL (HD); 47 Sep 30 Ray B (JK); 75 Oct 3 DY's potato field Gabriels; reports from Chazy, L Placid, Ausable Marsh Moose R Plains, TL, last wild flock reported 150 SL (GK). Snow Goose: 200 plus Nov 23 Rockefeller Pk (Collins & Emperor fide JH). Mallard: 50 Nov 15 Kings Bay, L Champlain (JH); two Oct 3 Constable L (DP). Black Duck: reported all areas, largest number 100 plus, Kings Bay Nov 15 (JH). Green-winged Teal: small flock, Sep 6 TL (John Bull); two in hunter's bag Racquette P Oct 23 (BF). Wood Duck: six Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM); two Barnum P Sep 14 (GK); 20 Ausable Marsh Sep 14 (JH); two in bag Oct 24 Racquette P (BF). Ring-necked Duck: one Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM); ten near Paul Smiths Sep 28 (WF). Common Goldeneye: 55 Allens Bay, 20 Monty's Bay, 20 Kings Bay L Champlain Nov 15 (JH). Bufflehead: two females Slush P Oct 20 (JH); three pair L Colby Oct 29 (WF). Common Scoter: one identified from head saved by hunter Oct 22 Racquette P (BF). Hooded Merganser: few Sep 7 to Oct 30 Ray B (JK); three Grass P Oct 25 (JH); four Wells Oct 7, two Brook P SL Oct 22, two Moody P SL Nov 2 (RH); two Oct 26 & 31 SL (HD). Common Merganser: fewer young than usual, only six, Piseco L (DM); two Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM); pair with 13 young Racquette R Sep 6 (BF); 15 Elk L Sep 12 (RS), pair with 17 young Elk L

Sep 12 (JMD)—same birds or on different parts of lake? 17 Oct 12 St Regis R at Paul Smiths (EA, HD); one Lower Saranac L Nov 13 (RH).

HAWKS—OWLS: Goshawk: one Elk L Sep 11 (JMD); one Robinwood Preserve Oct 12 (caretaker fide BF); one Jay Nov 11 (RH). Sharp-shinned Hawk: one Aug 31 and Sep 6 Ray B (JK); one Jay Sep 26, one L Pleasant Oct 5 (RH). Red-tailed Hawk: one imm Sep 8 SL (EA, HD); one Oct 5 Indian L (RH); one Racquette P Flow Oct 7 (BF); one Elk L Sep 12 (RS); one Slush P Oct 8 (JH). Red-shouldered Hawk: pair with young throughout summer Tupper ski area, one imm Aug 26 (BF). Broad-winged Hawk: reported all areas, last one Sep 8 Port Kent (JH). Rough-legged Hawk: one Ausable Marsh Nov 18 (JH); one North Hudson Nov 23 (RH). Bald Eagle: one Big Tupper ski area Oct 17 (BF). Marsh Hawk: one Aug 18 SL (HD); one Racquette R Sep 6 (BF). Osprey: one Merrillville Aug 30 (JH); one Sep 3 L Clear (DY); one Sep 21 SL (HD); three nests near TL kept under surveillance, no young observed but adults seen carrying fish to one nest, one adult Sep 6 Racquette R (BF). Sparrow Hawk: reported all areas, last one Nov 2 SL (HD).

Spruce Grouse: seven in two groups Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM). Ruffed Grouse: three Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM); Elk L Sep 12 (RS); Ray B (JK); SL (GK). Semipalmated Plover: Westport Sep 1 (GC). Killdeer: one Constable L Oct 3 (DP). Amer. Golden Plover: three Gabrels Sep 17 (RH, DY). Black-bellied Plover: Willsboro Sep 2 (GC). Amer. Woodcock: one Aug 28 TL (AA); seven, SL Oct 19, one Oct 23 SL (GK). Sanderling: Westport Sep 1 (GC). Black Tern: two Aug 18 TL (RH). Herring Gull: normal; 50 on ice, Ausable R at Cadyville Nov 29 (JH). Ring-billed Gull: two Ausable R Clintonville Oct 29 (RH); eight Sep 20 Gabrels (HD). Mourning Dove: one Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM); one Port Kent Sep 8 (JH); one Sep 20 and Nov 5 SL (EA, HD). HAWK OWL: one near TL Nov 24 (BF). (Field Note in May issue) Barred Owl: one L Placid Sep 14, one Whitney Preserve Oct 7 (BF).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Common Nighthawk: one Aug 24 SL (GK). Chimney Swift: thru Aug 29 Ray B (JK). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: thru Sep 5 Ray B (JK); thru Sep 20 SL (HD). Belted Kingfisher: one or two all areas until mid-Oct. Yellow-shafted Flicker: all areas but no large numbers except Piseco L—“great abundance” Sep 18–20 (DM). Pileated Woodpecker: one Sep 2 Moose R Plains (DM); one Sep 19 Little Long P, Oct 20 Cascade L, Nov 7 Meecham P (JH); one Sep 20 LP Golf course (BF); two Oct 14 Ray B (JK); one Upper St Regis Nov 25 (GK). RED-HEADED WOODPECKER: one adult outside picture window studied for 15 or more minutes on Sep 18, 20 & 21 in sun and against grey sky, SL (EA, HD). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: a few all areas until early Oct. Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers: normal. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: one SL Oct 6, one Santa Clara Rd Oct 7 (EA, HD); one Lower Saranac L Nov 6 (RH). Eastern Kingbird: normal, last Sep 8 SL (HD). Eastern Phoebe: normal, last Oct 14 Ray B (JK). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Sep 2 one Moose R Plains (DM); one Oct 1 TL (AA). Least Flycatcher: one Aug 24 and 27 Ray B (JK). Eastern Wood Pewee: only reports—one each Ray B (JK) and SL (GK). Tree Swallow: last Aug 20 Ray B (JK). Barn Swallow: normal all areas. Cliff Swallow: nine Aug 17 Ray B (JK). Purple Martin: 20 Aug 18 Speculator (RH).

Gray Jay: three Sep 2 Moose R Plains (DM); four Sep 4 Mad-Ross (GM); one Sep 8 SL (EA, HD); one Oct 7 Whitney Preserve (BF); one Oct 28 Keeses Mills, one Oct 29 SL (WF); two Nov 17 Whitney Park (DY). Blue Jay: normal. Common Crow: no large flocks reported; 25 Sep 21 SL (HD). Black-capped Chickadee: normal. Boreal Chickadee: small numbers reported Cascade L, Jay, L Pleasant, Mad-Ross, North Hudson, Ray B, Elk L, SL, Chubb R. White-breasted and Red-breasted Nuthatches: normal. Brown Creeper: two Oct 3 Constable L (DP); one Sep 30 TL (AA); last Nov 3 Ray B (JK) and Nov 7 SL (GK). Winter Wren: one Oct 12 Ray B (JK). Catbird: one Oct 1 TL (AA); one thru Sep 23 SL (GK) and Oct 6 Ray B (JK). Brown Thrasher: one Aug 17, Sep 8 and 10 Ray B (JK); one SL Sep 21 (EA, HD). Robin: normal, few until early Nov, 20 L Placid Nov 9 (JH). Wood Thrush: one Sep 3 Ray B (JK). Hermit Thrush: one Oct 1 TL (AA); few

Aug 30 thru Oct 14 Ray B (JK); one Oct 31 (HD, WF). Swainson's Thrush: Sep 4 Mad-Ross (GM); last Ray B Sep 24 (JK). Veery: thru Aug 31 Ray B (JK); two Oct 6 SL (HD). Eastern Bluebird: six Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM); 12 L Placid Sep 19 (RH); one Oct 2 Ray B (JK); two Constable L Oct 3 (DP); four Oct 4 SL (HD). Golden-crowned Kinglet: small numbers Sep and Oct. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: few all areas, last Nov 3 Ray B (JK). Water Pipit: five Sep 28 Ray B (JK); Sep 21 thru 30 Gabriels and L Clear, max 18 (DY). Cedar Waxwing: few reports, came late and left early. Starling: 75 plus Sep 5 SL (HD); "large flocks" Sep 26 Ray B (JK); otherwise no great numbers reported.

**VIREOS—WARBLERS:** Vireo and warbler reports were spotty and disappointing Solitary Vireo: one Sep 4 Mad-Ross (GM); "decrease" Ray B (JK). Red-eyed Vireo: last Sep 17 Ray B (JK). Black-and-white Warbler: one Aug 31 Ray B (JK). Nashville Warbler: one Sep 4 Mad-Ross (GM); Piseco L Sep 3 (DM); until Sep 21 Ray B (JK). Parula Warbler: one Ray B Sep 4 (JK). Magnolia Warbler: two Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM); last Sep 4 Ray B (JK); Sep 3–7 Piseco L (DM). Black-throated Blue Warbler: Sep 3–7 Piseco L (DM); Sep 18 Ray B (JK); Sep 12 Elk L (RS); Oct 7 SL (HD). Myrtle Warbler: this usually common fall migrant was sparsely reported this season. Black-throated Green Warbler: one Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM); one Sep 12 Elk L (RS); last Oct 21 Ray B (JK). Blackburnian Warbler: last Sep 9 Ray B (JK). Chestnut-sided Warbler: Aug 27 "scarce" Ray B (JK). Bay-breasted Warbler: five Sep 2 Moose R Plains (DM). Palm Warbler: carefully identified Oct 6 SL (HD). Ovenbird: Sep 3–7 Piseco L (DM); Sep 8 Ray B (JK). Yellowthroat: Sep reports Mad-Ross, Piseco L, Ray B, last SL Oct 6 (HD). American Redstart: Sep 3–7 Piseco L (DM); Sep 4 and 9 Ray B (JK); Aug 23 SL (GK).

**BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS:** House Sparrow: no noticeable increase. Eastern Meadow Lark: three SL Oct 28 (HD); one Union Falls Nov 20 (JH); five Keene Valley Nov 30 (RH). Red-winged Blackbird: no great flocks reported; largest 100 plus SL Oct 5 (GK). Baltimore Oriole: JK reports one Aug 31 as "late date"; one Oct 20 SL at feeder seems certainly "late date" (HD). Rusty Blackbird: four Constable L Oct 3 (DP); three or four until Nov 1 Ray B (JK). Common Grackle: no large flocks reported. Brown-headed Cowbird: no large flocks. Scarlet Tanager: one Oct 10 Ray B (JK). Cardinal: Oct 28 thru 31 at feeder SL (G Chase). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: one Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM); one Sep 9 Ray B (JK). DICKCISSEL: one carefully observed at feeder Oct 13 Gabriels (DY). Evening Grosbeak: summer residents thru Aug, virtual hiatus Sep, large numbers of migrants and winter birds beginning mid-November. Purple Finch: Sep 4 Mad-Ross (GM); some until Oct 9 Ray B (JK). Pine Grosbeak: first three Gabriels Oct 15 (DY), numerous reports since then, all too much road kill. Common Redpoll: good numbers. Pine Siskin: 35 plus, Oct 20 Ray B (JK); several Oct 29 SL (WF). American Goldfinch: 100 plus St Regis Oct 12—last date and only large number reported. Red Crossbill: Sep 4 Mad-Ross (GM); three Oct 20 & 21 Ray B (JK). White-winged Crossbill: five Fawn L Aug 31 ("not usually present there"), five Indian Falls, Marcy trail Sep 19 (DM); six Sep 12 Elk L (JMD); 40 plus Keene Oct 24 (EE); eight Nov 10 SL (HD). Rufous-sided Towhee: one, Aug 28 TL (AA). Savannah Sparrow: 20 Sep 20 SL (HD); one Oct 12 Ray B (JK). Vesper Sparrow: reports of small numbers Sep 4 Mad-Ross (GM) to Nov 3 SL (RH). Slate-colored Junco: small numbers all areas Sep and Oct. Tree Sparrow: small numbers late Oct thru period. Chipping Sparrow: good numbers; last, six Nov 3 SL (RH). Field Sparrow: two Mad-Ross Sep 4 (GM). White-crowned Sparrow: one to eight Sept 30 thru Nov 11, max Oct 13 SL (HD); ten Constable L Oct 3 (DP). White-throated Sparrow: no large migrating numbers. Fox Sparrow: one Oct 6 thru 13 Ray B (JK). Swamp Sparrow: one Oct 20 Ray B (JK). Song Sparrow: six Oct 3 Constable L (DP); small flocks Oct 6 SL (HD); last Nov 6 Ray B (JK). Snow Bunting: 25 Gabriels Oct 13 (DY); one male Minerva Nov 15 (MJD); 20 near Elizabethtown Nov 22 (G Chase); ten Blue Ridge Nov 24 (RH).

Trudeau Road, Saranac Lake, N.Y. 12983

## REGION 8 — MOHAWK – HUDSON

PETER P. WICKHAM

For a change, precipitation during this period was slightly above normal. Aug temperatures average  $69.4^{\circ}$ ,  $0.6^{\circ}$  less than normal (at Albany), with a brisk cold wave Aug 29–31, when a marked wave of small landbirds was noted. Precipitation at Albany totalled 4.32 in., 1.25 in. above normal. Sep temperatures were somewhat mild, averaging  $63.6^{\circ}$ ,  $2.0^{\circ}$  above normal. Cold fronts Sep 27–28 and Oct 2–7 noticeable “waves” of landbirds and the first flocks of geese. Precipitation in Sep totalled 3.76 in., 0.18 in. above normal. Temperatures in Oct averaged  $51.2^{\circ}$ ,  $0.4^{\circ}$  above normal, and precipitation totalled 2.37 in., 0.40 in. below normal. Notable “waves” and cold fronts on Oct 16–18, Oct 24–25 and Oct 28–30 coincided rather fortuitously with weekends.

Heros of all species were low in numbers. Other marsh birds such as rails and gallinules were virtually absent. Hawks and owls also continued low in numbers. The shorebird flight offered interesting variety, although numbers were low. Swifts and swallows lingered quite late, perhaps due to an abundance of insect food through Sep. Both species of kinglets seemed rather common, although most observers considered numbers of migrant vireos and warblers very low. Perhaps the highlight of the period was the appearance of all the “usual” winter finches in fairly impressive numbers. The writer is especially indebted to RPY and WBS for the operation of a banding station at VFG. The data thus accumulated is helping to clarify fall migratory patterns of several species, particularly Least and Traill’s Flycatchers and Lincoln’s Sparrow.

Unusual or rare species reported during the period included Whistling Swan, European Widgeon, Black Vulture, Golden Eagle, Pigeon Hawk, Golden Plover, White-rumped Sandpiper (very late), Northern Phalarope, Saw-whet Owl, Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker, Boreal Chickadee, Bohemian Waxwing, Carolina Wren and Western Tanager.

Abbreviations used: ADBC—Alan Devoe Bird Club; SBC—Schenectady Bird Club; AR—Alcove Reservoir; BM—Black Mountain; CL—Collins Lake; EG—East Greenbush; CR—Galway Reservoir; JL—Jenny Lake; MR—Mohawk River; RL—Round Lake; SCR—Stony Creek Reservoir; SL—Saratoga Lake; TR—Tomhannock Reservoir; VFG—Vischer Ferry Game Management Area.

Observers: CB—Guy Bartlett; HB—Hortense Barten; JHB, BB—James and Barbara Bush; LB, VB—Lee and Virginia Burland; JC—Juanita Cook; HE—Hazel Eddy; PE, GE—Paul and Georgia Erlenbach; MC, AC—Murray and Alice Giddings; WC—William Gorman; EH—Esly Hallenbeck; JP, EP—John and Eloise Payne; WBS—Walton Sabin; BRS—Benton Seguin; RS, MLS—Robert and Mary Lou Shedd; DS—David Stoner; DJT—Dr. Donald Tucker; PPW—Peter Wickham; JCY—John Yrizarry; RPY—Robert Yunick; GMZ—Gladys Zimmer.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: SL Sep 19 (early) (BRS); in usual areas thru Nov, max 12 SL Oct 16 (BRS). Red-throated Loon: one Nov 13 SL (SBC); two Nov 14 TR (GB, BRS); one Nov 20 SL (PPW)—only reports. Red-necked Grebe: one-two at RL and SL Oct 31 (EH)—Nov 14 (SBC). Horned Grebe: first SL Sep 4 (BRS), thru Nov, max 78 SL Nov 13 (BRS, GB). Pied-billed Grebe: many reports, last RL Nov 20 (PPW). Great Blue Heron: widely reported, but fewer numbers than usual, Aug—Oct; last Nov 23, Catskill (JHB). Common Egret: very scarce, only one—near Medusa Aug 17 (JHB, BB). Green Heron: rather low numbers, last Sep 29, VFG (EH). No night-herons. Amer. Bittern: only one report—one near Clifton Park remained to Sep 25 (DJT). WHISTLING SWAN: one

above Lock 6 on MR near Cohoes Nov 13 and one (very likely same bird) at TR Nov 14 (GB, BRS). Canada Goose: first migrant flocks Sep 25, JL (GB) and Sep 29-30 widely, fewer flocks and smaller numbers reported than in other recent years; last Nov 21, AR (SBC). Brant: flock of 16 at SL Oct 23, 6 remained on Oct 24 (mob); one at SL Nov 19-28 (mob). Snow Goose: three reports—five near Catskill Oct 12 (*fide* JHB); 100 SL Oct 23 (BRS); one SL Nov 25 (BRS).

Mallard and Black Ducks recorded in large numbers. Gadwall: a female at SL Oct 24 (EH, HE); one male at SL Nov 20 (PPW); and five at SCR Nov 21 (Gus Angst). Amer. Widgeon: Sep 25, SCR (BRS)—Nov 20, SL (GB, BRS). EUROPEAN WIDGEON: a male in full plumage at SCR Oct 9 feeding with several Amer. Widgeon, many of which were still in partial eclipse (BRS). Pintail: Sep 4, SCR (BRS)—Nov 14, SL (SBC). Green-winged Teal: Sep 4, SCR (BRS)—Nov 21, AR (SBC). Blue-winged Teal: at least 1000 appeared at SCR Sep 24, but stayed only that day (Dirck Benson); last Oct 31, CL (EH). Shoveler: up to five at RL Oct 2-16 (BRS et al) and two at AR Oct 17 (BRS). Wood Duck: last Oct 31, CL (EH). Redhead: four reports—one SCR Oct 2 (BRS); six RL Oct 30 (BRS); one SL Nov 1 (DS); six SL Nov 14 (SBC). Scaup: first Sep 29, GR (EH); appeared generally Oct 9-12. Common Goldeneye: first Oct 16, SL (BRS), many by mid-Nov. Bufflehead: first Oct 17, CL (EH), thru end of period. Oldsquaw: first Oct 16, TR (PPW); small group on SL Oct 20 to end of period (mob), max 15 Nov 20 (BRS); three on MR at Niskayuna Nov 1 (DS). White-winged Scoter: only at SL, Oct 9 (BRS) to end of period, max 26 Oct 23 (BRS). Surf Scoter: one SL Oct 9 and eight SL Oct 23 (BRS)—only reports. Common Scoter: flock of 22 repeatedly “buzzed” TR without landing Oct 16 (PPW); also one on L George at Silver Bay Oct 23-24 (JCY), two on RL Oct 9-10, two (not always the same) on SL Oct 16-30 and one SL to Nov 20 (mob). Ruddy Duck: three AR Oct 31 (PPW, WG); two TR Nov 6 (SBC); four MR at Niskayuna Nov 1 (DS); one RL Nov 13-20 (BRS, GB) and one AR Nov 21 (SBC). Hooded Merganser: first Sep 12, JL (GB); reported generally Oct 9-16 to end of period. Common Merganser: first Sep 8, GR (EH); very few until Nov. Red-breasted Merganser: first Oct 16, TR and SL (PPW, BRS) to end of period.

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: reported mainly from Greene, Columbia and western Albany Co, last Oct 2, Schodack Center (LB, VB). BLACK VULTURE: two carefully identified in a group of five vultures near Old Chatham Sep 16 (HB). Goshawk: only one—near VFG Nov 13 (GB, BRS). Sharp-shinned Hawk: only reports—one, Canaan Sep 1, 15, 18 (JP, EP) and one Sep 19, RL (BRS). Cooper's Hawk: only five reports, last Nov 13, RL (SBC). Red-shouldered Hawk: only four reports. Broad-winged Hawk: several reports, last Oct 12, L Taghkanic (LB, VB). Rough-legged Hawk: two Oct reports, first Oct 12 (EH); several Nov records. Bald Eagle: one imm Sep 6 VFG (RS, MLS)—only report. GOLDEN EAGLE: one injured first-year imm picked up near Corinth Nov 14, subsequently died, and is in the N.Y. State Museum Collection (*fide* WBS). Marsh Hawk: at least 13 individuals reported, last Oct 24, Ghent (PE, GE). Osprey: reported from few localities, last Nov 14, SL (late) (SBC). PIGEON HAWK: one adult Sep 19 RL (BRS)—only report. Sparrow Hawk: considered numerous late Aug and Sep by some observers. Rails and gallinules seemed extremely scarce: *only* reports—Virginia Rail, one VFG Aug 28 and one VFG Sep 6 (RPY). Coot: at SL, TR and R from Oct 16 on; max 98 Nov 13 SL (SBC).

Semipalmated Plover: only report, two Sep 29 GR (EH). Killdeer: reported widely thru end of period. GOLDEN PLOVER: one feeding with “dozen or so” Killdeer on a grassy field in EG Sep 8 and 10 (LB, VB), and one feeding with about 25 Killdeer on a grass-covered field, Clifton Pk, Sep 23-24 (DJT). Amer. Woodcock: few records; last Oct 16, Grafton (RPY). Common Snipe: last Oct 23 VFG (RPY). Spotted Sandpiper: last Sep 20 Ghent (PE, GE). Solitary Sandpiper: few records; last Sep 20 Ghent (PE, GE). Greater Yellowlegs: several reports into

Nov, last Nov 14, SL (SBC). Pectoral Sandpiper: Sep 19 RL (BRS); Sep 29 GR (EH); Oct 17 AR (BRS). WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER: three records, all late—three Oct 17 AR (BRS), two Nov 6 TR (SBC), two Nov 13–14 SL (SBC). Least Sandpiper: last Sep 4, Lock 7 MR (BRS). Dunlin: only reports—one Nov 6 TR (SBC) and two SL Nov 13 (BRS, GB). Semipalmated Sandpiper: only four reports, Sep 29–Oct 17. NORTHERN PHALAROPE: one observed at close range at VFG Sep 6 (RS, MLS).

Great Black-backed Gull: only reports—Hudson R near Castleton Oct 16 (JC) and one SL Nov 20 (PPW). Bonaparte's Gull: only reports—two SL Oct 30 (BRS, DJT, PPW) and two SL Nov 13 (GB, BRS). Yellow-billed Cuckoo: reported into mid-Sep, last Oct 18, Old Chatham (HB) and Oct 20, Ghent (PE, GE). Black-billed Cuckoo: reported to mid-Sep, last Sep 26, BM (PPW) and Oct 18, Ghent (PE, GE). Screech Owl: reported at Scotia (EH), VFG (RPY) and EG (WG). Great Horned Owl: reported in several scattered localities. Snowy Owl: only one, late Oct near Clifton Park (fide WBS). Barred Owl: reported only from JL (GB). SAW-WHET OWL: one picked up stunned in Glenville was fed, banded, photographed and released (RPY, EH et al). Another was found freshly killed at the side of a road in Valley Falls Nov 27 (RS, MLS).

GOATSUCKERS—SHRIKES: Nighthawk: groups seen, mid-Aug to mid-Sep; max 200 Aug 29 Schenectady (RPY); last Sep 20, Ghent (PE, GE). Chimney Swift: lingered into late Sep; last Oct 3 (late), Schodack Center (LB, VB). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: thru Sep; last Oct 5, Chatham Center (MG, AG). Pileated Woodpecker: reported widely. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: migrants Sep 21 Scotia (EH)—Oct 16 TR (PPW). BLACK-BACKED THREE-TOED WOODPECKER: a female near Hague Oct 23 (JCY) and a female near Catskill Nov 6 (JHB). Eastern Kingbird: several reports early Sep; last Sep 12, Canaan (JP, EP). Crested Flycatcher: some migrants noted in late Aug; last Sep 6, Canaan (JP, EP). Phoebe: to mid-Oct; last Oct 16, Ghent (PE, GE). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Aug 29 EG (PPW), Sep 5 Ghent (PE, GE) and Sep 6 Castleton (JC). Traill's Flycatcher: decided movement Aug 27–Sep 11 at VFG—six banded, max 3 Aug 28 (RPY). Least Flycatcher: also banded thru Sep 11 at VFG (RPY). Wood Pewee: several Sep reports, last Sep 21 (EH, PE, GE). Olive-sided Flycatcher: one seen and heard in Ghent Oct 6, late (PE, GE). Swallows lingered quite late, well into Sep; one “huge flock of mixed swallows” near Castleton on Sep 12 had Tree, Bank, Barn and Cliff Swallows (JC). Late dates: Tree, Oct 2 Corinth (GB); Barn, Oct 10 Corinth (GB). Also notable were more than 100 Cliff Swallows observed flying singly or in small groups on Aug 28 thru Berlin Pass west into a west wind of 15–25 m.p.h. (PPW).

BOREAL CHICKADEE: one at BM Sep 26 (SBC), and one at a Scotia feeder Sep 14–17 (EH et al), both very early. Tufted Titmouse: reported widely, many locations. Red-breasted Nuthatch: heavy migration; first Aug 31, EG (early) (PPW); several thru end of period. Brown Creeper: good migration; first Sep 19, Rensselaer (PPW). House Wren: disappeared gradually thru Sep, last Oct 1, Ghent (GE, PE). Winter Wren: Oct 2, Karner (PPW)—Nov 9, Catskill (JHB). CAROLINA WREN: only report—one at Amsterdam feeder in late Oct and during Nov (Mrs. Gerald Fitzgerald). Long-billed Marsh-Wren: last Sep 19, SCR (BR&S). Mockingbird: reported from Ghent, Scotia, El Dorado, Schodack and EG. Catbird: most left by early Oct; last Nov 5, Catskill (BB). Brown Thrasher: few seen after Aug; last Oct 29 (Mary Mickle).

Wood Thrush: last Oct 7 (ADBC). Hermit Thrush: few reports; last Nov 14, TR (GB, BRS). Swainson's Thrush: only reports, Sep 10–16, (PPW, PE, GE). Gray-cheeked Thrush: only two reports, both from northern areas—one Sep 26, BM (SBC) and one Oct 24, Silver Bay (JCY). Veery: very few reports, last Sep 21 (EH). Bluebird: throughout Region, but nowhere common. Golden-crowned Kinglet: heavy and prolonged migration; first, Sep 26 BM (SBC) and Sep 28 EG (PPW); wide-

spread Oct and Nov. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Sep 18, EG (PPW)—Nov 7 (GB, BRS); heavy migration. Water Pipit: noted mostly at dried-up shores of local ponds and reservoirs; Oct 9 Castleton (JC)—Nov 6 TR (SBC). Cedar Waxwing: very common Aug and Sep, numbers gradually decreasing in rest of period. BOHEMIAN WAXWING: one carefully identified as it perched on the roof of a building at Catskill Game Farm Nov 22 (Richard Ryan). Northern Shrike: Nov 13, VFG (GB, BRS) and Nov 17, Catskill (Catherine Thorne).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: last Sep 29, GR (EH). Solitary Vireo: migrants Aug 29 EG (PPW)—Oct 2 Karner (PPW). Red-eyed Vireo: reported into Oct, last Oct 10 (late), VFG (RPY). Warbling Vireo: last Sep 6, Castleton (JC).

Warblers—Black-and-white: last Sep 29, Athens (Martha Bush). Tennessee: one banded Sep 11, VFG (RPY) and one banded Oct 10 (late), VFG (RPY) only reports. Nashville: many reports, Sep 1–28. Parula: Sep 1, Castleton (JC)—Sep 28, Ghent (PE, GE). Yellow: several reports early Sep, last Sep 15 (ADBC). Magnolia: many migrants, Aug 31 EG (PPW)—Oct 3 (PPW, JP, EP). Myrtle: main movement thru Oct; last Nov 6, TR (SBC). Black-throated Green: reports thru Sep; last Oct 9, Gallupville (GMZ). Blackburnian: Aug 23 GR (EH)—Sep 26 BM (SBC). Chestnut-sided: to Sep 28 (ADBC). Bay-breasted: marked wave, Sep 14–28 (ADBC, SBC). Blackpoll: Sep 1 Ghent (PE, GE)—Oct 17 Ghent (PE, GE). Pine: Old Chatham Sep 3–6 (HB), Castleton Sep 11 (JC), only reports. Prairie: last Sep 12, Ghent (PE, GE). Palm: Sep 8 Old Chatham (HB)—Oct 23 Ghent (PE, GE). Ovenbird: last Sep 6, Canaan (JP, EP). Northern Water-thrush: only report—one Oct 20 Ghent (PE, GE). Yellow-throat: last Oct 21, EG (Noel Albertson). Wilson's: at least five reports, four in early Sep; Sep 3 EG (PPW)—Oct 9 VFG (banded) (RPY). Canada: migrants Aug 29 EG (PPW)—Sep 6 Castleton (JC). Redstart: several reports, Sep 3–28.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: several flocks late Aug, last Sep 3, Castleton (JC). Red-winged Blackbird: large concentrations migrated during Oct, max 100,000 estimated near Catskill Oct 12 (JHB). Orchard Oriole: at Castleton nesting area to Sep 6 (JC). Baltimore Oriole: most left in early Sep; last Sep 8, Castleton (JC); one Oct 9, near VFG (BRS), very late. Rusty Blackbird: Sep 28, EG (PPW)—Nov 13, SL (GB, BRS). Common Grackle: large flocks, late Aug—Oct, max 75,000 and 45,000 estimated Oct 13 and 14 near Catskill (JHB). WESTERN TANAGER: an imm male at Silver Bay Oct 23 ("not unlike an imm female Scarlet [Tanager] [but] . . . bright yellow on the breast and under-tail coverts . . . middle coverts of the wing a bright yellow, the secondary coverts margined with white, thus two pronounced wing-bars, the yellow more so than the white"—JCY)—second 1965 record in Region. Scarlet Tanager: last Sep 28, Ghent (PE, GE). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: many in Sep, last Sep 28, Ghent (PE, GE). Indigo Bunting: last Sep 19, EG, (PPW) and Sep 20, Castleton (JC). Evening Grosbeak: became uncommon at JL (nesting area) after Sep 16 (GB); first migrants Sep 29, Schodack Center (LB, VB), widely Oct 3–10. Purple Finch: after Oct, quite scarce in most areas. Pine Grosbeak: first Nov 7 at EG (PPW) and Greenville (Clarissa Ketcham), widespread by end of period. Redpoll: first Nov 13, Old Chatham (PPW), flocks of up to 50 later in Nov. Pine Siskin: first Oct 11, VFG (Marjorie Foote, M. McGuirk), widely later in Oct and Nov. Red Crossbill: one report—12 Nov 6 TR (SBC). White-winged Crossbill: lone report—five Nov 20 Lisha Kill (DS). Rufous-sided Towhee: last Oct 21 (ADBC).

Sparrows: Savannah: few reported, last Oct 24, Silver Bay (JCY). Vesper: last Oct 27, Chatham Center (MG, AG). Slate-colored Junco: first migrant Sep 6 (early), VFG (RPY); large influx in early Oct. Tree: general influx Oct 24–30, large groups noted. Chipping: lingered to late Oct, last Nov 1, Catskill (JHB). Field: few reports, last Oct 26, Loudonville (Mabel French). White-crowned: good migration, Sep 15 Old Chatham (HB)—Nov 20 Lock 7 (GB, BRS). White-throated:

first Sep 6, VFG (R PY) and Canaan (JP, EP), widely by Sep 20, some thru period. Fox: first Oct 2 (BRS), major influx Oct 23-30, last Nov 12, RL (HE). LIN-COLN'S: Sep 4 VFG (BRS)-Oct 10 VFG (R PY); at least 19 reported in this period, with seven banded at VFG in early Oct (R PY). Swamp: Oct 31, VFG (R PY) Lapland Longspur: at least three with Snow Buntings at AR Oct 31 (PPW, WG). Snow Bunting: first—one Oct 21, North L (JHB, BB), several flocks Oct 30-31 and into mid-Nov.

12 Columbia Drive, East Green bush, N.Y. 12061

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## REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

Temperatures were moderate throughout the entire season without any extremes recorded. The drought of the past several years was somewhat alleviated by a few day-long rains which raised reservoirs about a third above their lows of last year. The even lowering of temperatures as the season progressed produced a rather unspectacular migration for most species. Only a few weak waves of warblers were reported and those only from Dutchess Co. Ducks were in good numbers, and jays and blackbirds in enormous flocks. Northern visitors began arriving early and at the close of the season were well represented.

*Abbreviations:* MBC—Mearns Bird Club; RAS—Rockland Audubon Soc.; WBC—Waterman Bird Club; Dutch—Dutchess Co.; Oran—Orange Co.; Rock—Rockland Co.; Ulst—Ulster Co.; West—Westchester Co.; USMA—U.S. Military Academy at West Point; FHW—Fyke Nature Assoc. Annual Hawk Watch at Mt. Peter, Orange Co. daily from Sep 4—Sep 26 and from Oct 2—Oct 17.

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LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: only two reported, Roundout Res., Oct 30 (MB et al). RED-NECKED GREBE: always rare; one very early, Oct 27, Long Pond, USMA, West Pt (MD, BM). Horned Grebe: more reports than usual, scattered dates and numbers, only one large flock, on Ashokan Res. Nov 19 (HW et al). Double-crested Cormorant: rarely reported before; as many as six from Aug 18-29 in the Hudson off Cornwall; one, Vanderberg Cove, Dutch Aug 28, far up river for this species. Great Blue Heron: numbers still low throughout Region. Green Heron: normal to slightly less. Little Blue Heron: only report—three white imm at Brown's Pond, Newburgh Aug 22 (M & JD). Common Egret: only two reports, both from Brown's Pond, Newburgh (possibly the same bird) Aug 22 and Sep 5 (M & JD). American Bittern: two Oct 9, Crugars Is; one at Chester Nov 7. Canada Goose: migration as heavy as it can be, described as excellent by most reporters; extended throughout period with earliest flight on Aug 19 (MD); Largest flock 1,000 plus Nov 10 at West Pt. Snow Goose: 23 Blooming Grove, Oran on Oct 23 (B & AM); 18 Clove Valley, Dutch Nov 9 (HM, GD). Mallard & Black Duck: residents bred in

unusually large numbers throughout much of Region bringing fall populations to new highs. Gadwall: Two summered at Iona Sanctuary, Bear Mt Pk (JO). Pintail: Only one reported, Millbrook, Nov 10 (MK). Green-winged Teal: first, five Aug 30, Dutch; max 136 at Crugars Is Oct 22; last Nov 19 Ashokan Res. Blue-winged Teal: numbers normal, first Aug 30. Wood Duck: good breeding record during summer raised fall populations throughout Region; 30 plus thru Oct and early Nov, West Nyack area. Red-head: always uncommon, one male and three females on Tomahawk L Oct 2 (ME); one female Oct 14, Clove Valley (HM, GD). Bufflehead: arrived mid-Oct in most areas; five females spent all of Nov and most of Dec on Garrison's Pond, Fort Montgomery until ice forced them out. Oldsquaw: more reports than usual; first, two Oct 31, early, Rondout Res; ten on Kiamesha L Nov 14 (MB); one at Verbank, Dutch (P & TH). Hooded Merganser: only reports come from Dutch, about 30—better than usual. Common Merganser: extraordinarily early arrival, four Sep 22 on Hudson at Cornwall (MD); normal late Oct and Nov.

**HAWKS—OWLS:** Turkey Vulture: normal; last, Oct 27. Goshawk: one reported over the Shawangunks Sep 19 (DrHM). Sharp-shinned and Coopers Hawks: numbers low in most areas, but FHW produced about three times as many as last year, and about seven times the usual average—359 Sharpies and 39 Coopers; peak movements of both species on Oct 11. Red-tailed Hawk: normal for most of Region; FHW had 152, also about seven times the usual average, peak Oct 16. Red-shouldered Hawk: none reported from most of Region; FHW had phenomenal number 36, three times the number last year, and many times their usual average; peak, nine Oct 16. Broad-winged Hawk: the usual concentrations in most areas; low on FHW compared with last year, 1,532; no real peak noted, numbers rather evenly distributed throughout latter half of Sep. An interesting report of a hawk of this species being killed in West when, while carrying a snake in its talons, it flew through the open window of a car being driven by Mrs George Adam of Middle Patent. No mention of how Mrs. Adam fared. Rough-legged Hawk: only two reports, both from Dutch, one each Nov 10 and 11. Bald Eagle: very scarce; one in Dutch Aug 23; one at Nanuet, Rock Sep 16; two at Rondout Res Oct 30; one at Tomahawk L, Oran Nov 25; one spent month of Nov at the USMA, and was still there as of this writing; only one on the FHW, Oct 17. Marsh Hawk: numbers up over previous years; FHW had 49 birds, double their usual number. Osprey: very good numbers throughout Sep and Oct; FHW total 145, well above their high of 86 last year. Peregrine Falcon: numbers very low; WBC reported one Oct 17 and MBC three from Sep 18 to 22; FHW—only four in 30 days of watching. Merlin: one Oct 16 at Cross River Res, West, two Sep birds on FHW—more than usual. Kestrel: FHW had 473, with 210 on Sep 11; numbers good throughout most of Region, but seemed lower in Dutch. Ruffed Grouse: population seems about as high as last year, which was good. Bobwhite: one at Pleasantville, West Oct 17—any record for southern part of Region is good. Ring-necked Pheasant: numbers seem reduced but not significantly. Common Gallinule: one Nov 5, Clove Valley, Dutch (HM, GD). Coot: 35 reported in Dutch in Oct, 29 of them Oct 31. Killdeer: 500 plus reported in Dutch thru Oct 23—"Very, very plentiful."—no where near that many elsewhere. Golden Plover: none, Oran for first time in several years: only reports, five Oct 24 and one Oct 28 Dutch. Black-bellied Plover: six Aug 22, Cornwall; one Aug 29, Ashokan Res; one, Oct 24 (very late for Region) at Pine Plains (EP). Woodcock: well reported from Oran and West but few elsewhere. Common Snipe: sparingly reported. **WILLET:** very rare in our area; one Aug 23 Cornwall Bay (MD, EA). Pectoral Sandpiper: fewer than usual in fall, but numbers good in Dutch. Least and Semi-palmated Sandpipers: numbers down in most parts, but were good in Rock, possibly due to a rerouting of Rt. 304 which opened up a formerly inaccessible end of L DeForest where extensive mud flats were exposed. **SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER:** at north end of L DeForest on Aug 10—fifth record for Rock (F & LD). **NORTHERN PHALAROPE:** one in fall plumage Aug 23 at Peronah L, Liberty, observed from

as close as four feet (DG). Gulls: all residents normal. Black-backed Gull: up slightly in the southern part. Bonaparte's Gull: two, Aug 23 at Cornwall Bay (MD, EA). Common Tern: two, Aug 23 at Cornwall Bay (MD, EA). BLACK TERN: very rare—one Sep 1, Peronah L Liberty. (DG). Mourning Dove: numbers good; Irma Dewitt added a mid-Oct nesting record from the New Paltz area. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: one Oct 22, late, at Blooming Grove, Oran. (ME) Owls: no marked change in local species. Snowy Owl: three reports; one at Poughkeepsie Nov 5 (AJ); one at East Pk, Dutch (TG) Nov 13; one Ashokan Res Nov 19 (HW). Long-Eared Owl: one at East Pk on Oct 29 and Nov 10 (TG). Saw-whet Owl: one Oct 14 at Clove Valley (HM).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Nighthawk: normal movement; flights on Aug 18, 19, Sep 6, and 10. Chimney Swift: thousands reported on Sep 3. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: good numbers in early Sep; last, on Sep 20. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: fairly good quantities in Sept. BLACK-BACKED THREE-TOED WOOD-PECKER: a male at Red Oaks Mill, Dutch from Oct 19 at same location where female wintered last year. WESTERN KINGBIRD: one Nov 21 at Lagrangeville, Dutch (HM, EP), observed from 50 to 2000 ft. for over an hour with 7 x 50 binoculars and three 30x telescopes—all field marks noted. Flycatchers: all residents present in normal numbers. Olive-sided Flycatcher: usual fall representation the first week of Sep. Tree Swallow: maximum numbers during mid-Sep; "thousands" at USMA on Sep 6 (MD), "hundreds" at New Paltz on Sep 19 and at Cornwall on Sep 21. Cliff Swallow: at Croton Res. Aug 28 (Tom Howe). GRAY JAY: one appeared at the feeder of Leslie Pearl in Amawalk, West on Nov 24. He is well acquainted with this species in Maine. Blue Jay: some very large flights noted, numbers high throughout period. Fish Crow: usually reported in spring; one reported at Poughkeepsie this fall—no dates given. Common Crow: migrants reported lower in most areas, but resident populations up locally at close of the season. BOREAL CHICKADEE: one at Valhalla on Oct 14 (BA). Red-breasted Nuthatch: more reports than ever before: first, mid-Aug and good numbers to end of period. Brown Creeper: normal to slightly less. House Wren: always rare after mid-Oct; one, very late, Oct 28 in Dutch (HM, CD). Winter Wren: good numbers during Oct, less during Nov. SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN: one observed closely in an overgrown field near Stone Ridge, Ulst. on Oct 7 (FH)—first fall record in that area; almost never reported throughout the rest of Region. Mockingbird: continues to increase, regularly observed in some areas. Catbird: one Oct 21, very late, Monticello (KN). Hermit Thrush: one of the largest migrations that your reporter can recall occurred during the week after Oct 30; dozens reported throughout the Region. Swainson's Thrush: normal migrants—one Nov 1, late, at Chester (SU). Gray-cheeked Thrush: five reports from Oran and only a few elsewhere; one Nov 10, late, on USMA (PJ). Veery: one at Standfordville, Dutch on Oct 2—late (FG). Bluebird: the usually high numbers of fall migrants; as many as 30 Aug 26 at USMA (PJ). Golden-crowned Kinglet: arrived late in Dutch but numbers normal to better throughout Region. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: normal to better, Water Pipit: late arrival, scarce compared with other years; a few flocks reported; 150 at Ashokan Res Sep 30 (DG) the largest. Cedar Waxwing: good numbers of summer prevailed through the fall. Northern Shrike: one extremely early on Aug 22, Millbrook, Dutch (M & JK) well identified, all field marks noted by two experienced birders; one at USMA, Nov 17 (PJ). Loggerhead Shrike: only report—one at L DeForest Sep 6 (F & RS).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: numbers about normal; one, very late, Poughkeepsie, Oct 6 (WBC). Red-eyed Vireo: low numbers of summer continued into fall; one Oct 13, late, at Millbrook (MVW); an adult feeding begging young at Crugars Is, Sep 17 (DG). Philadelphia Vireo: one killed by a cat at Germonds, Rock Oct 10 (EG). Worm-eating warbler: two very late Dutch records: one Oct 13 and one Oct 15, both at Red Oaks Mills (J & MK). Orange-crowned Warbler: one unverified report, Sep 16 in Dutch. Cape May Warbler: numbers less than usual. Chestnut-sided Warbler: A fairly late bird was killed on striking a

window in West Nyack on Oct 14 (EG). Bay-breasted Warbler; only three reports in Dutch and not many more elsewhere, numbers quite low this season. Blackpoll Warbler: two later than usual, one at Cornwall Oct 24 (M & JD), and one at New Paltz Nov 3 (RP). Connecticut Warbler; two records from Dutch, both at Rochdale Sep 11 and Sep 19; one at Pleasantville, West Sep 2. Yellow-breasted Chat: only records—one Sep 10 and one Oct 2, Dutch; numbers no better than last year, still severely low. Wilson's Warbler: numbers were good; one, late, Oct 10 at Rochdale (EP). Canada Warbler: few; first, Aug 16 & 17 in Dutch, peak around Sep 7-9.

**BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS:** Blackbirds: huge flights throughout the entire season; the largest flight your reporter has ever seen. Almost every weekend saw long lines of grackles, redwings etc. passing overhead. Several hundred birds per minute were counted with lines often lasting for better than an hour at a time. Scarlet Tanager: numbers lower than usual in fall; last, one Sep 29 at Rochdale (PG). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: normal; one, very late, Oct 13 at Rochdale (PG). Indigo Bunting: scarce. Evening Grosbeak: arrived early (Oct 6) and in good numbers; most areas reported them thru the end of period. House Finch: continues to increase and spread northward. Pine Grosbeak: first, Oct 28 in Dutch and not much later throughout the rest of Region; also in good numbers. Pine Siskin: arrived throughout much of Region on Oct 30; plentiful to end of period. Red Crossbill: appeared in Aug near the home of Sanford Cross in Alligerville, Ulst. White-winged Crossbill: good numbers during the first half of Nov over much of Region—Dutch Nov 2, West Nov 6, Oran Nov 15. *Henslow Sparrow*: always rarely reported; two on Oct 10 at Rochdale (MVW, EP). Slate-colored Junco: two Aug 30 at Deep Hollow, Dutch probably summered; first migrants in mid-Sep through most of Region; in good numbers during the early part of Oct; numbers low for residents at end of period. Tree Sparrow: first two Oct 23 in Dutch; scarce. **CLAY-COLORED SPARROW**: one studied at length at New Paltz by Drs. Heinz Meng and Robert Pyle on Oct 12. White-crowned Sparrow: two Sep 28 at Rochdale—early; WBC reports numbers low in Dutch, but RAS reports more than usual. White-throated Sparrow: good numbers in Sep, less toward end of period. Fox Sparrow: numbers low but scattered birds reported thru Oct and Nov. Lincoln's Sparrow: more than usual; ten reported from Dutch after Oct 21; singles from Oran, Sep 21, and West, Oct 16. Lapland Longspur: three, Oct 23 early, at Pine Plains (FG). Snow Bunting: appeared sparingly in northern part of Region; Oct 1 & 24 in Dutch, Oct 19 in Ulst and Oct 26 in Sull.

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, 10928

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## REGION 10 — MARINE

THOMAS H. DAVIS AND FRED HEATH

Only two years ago the Region experienced its biggest flight of crossbills since the beginning of this century, and abnormally high numbers of jays, nuthatches, chickadees, woodpeckers and "winter finches" were present. It was therefore a surprise to see nuthatches and chickadees swarming about in late August and September, hundreds of jays and many woodpeckers in September and October, and by the end of October, Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker, Boreal Chickadee, Evening Grosbeak, both crossbills and Pine Grosbeak. In early November several Redpoll reports completed the list.

Even bigger than the finch migration was a tremendous incursion of Saw-whet Owls. From the unusually early date of September 28 thru the period, 91 reports were received. Three banding stations which left nets up at night caught 57 Saw-whets. The peak wave on October 17 spread from Nantucket, Mass. to Queen Anne's County, Md., with 15 netted at the three Long Island banding stations. The influx

was not over by November 30. (Ed. Note: space limitations have dictated postponing publication of complete details of this invasion until the May issue.)

Northern sea-birds also appeared early and well-distributed throughout the Region. Harlequin Duck set a new arrival date and Common Eider was recorded very early. Alcids, our most irregular and unpredictable winter visitors, were reported nearly everyday from November 11 through the period, from Montauk Point to Point Lookout and even inland on Long Island.

Flights of landbirds seemed poor in numbers this fall, and more flights than usual fell on weekdays when few observers were in the field. Banding stations and observers reported the following species in far less than normal numbers: thrushes (especially Hermit, Swainson's and Gray-cheeked), Ruby-crowned Kinglet, all vireos (except possibly Warbling), most warblers, White-Throated Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow and Song Sparrow. The Slate-colored Junco migration was so poor that it might almost be labeled a disaster. Banding stations reported very few individuals of this usually abundant fall migrant and observers noted maxima of less than two hundred during the last week of October—very late. It is suspected that juncos are tarrying longer in the North rather than decreasing—note the unusually large numbers of juncos on last year's New England Christmas Counts when one would expect a concentration much further South.

Again, data from bird-banding stations has provided the basis for a statistical analysis of the fall passerine migration. Reports were received from five Long Island banding stations as follows: Atlantic Beach—Richard Cohen (over 1200 birds banded on a nearly daily operation, Aug 1–Oct 31); Brookhaven—Walter Terry, Dennis Puleston (5,115 birds banded in 86 days, Aug 1–Oct 31, 5236 net hours); Huntington—Dr. Wesley Lanyon (over 1500 birds banded, daily to early September, weekends to early November); Tiana—LeRoy Wilcox (2202 birds banded in 51 days, daily except Sundays, Aug 30–Oct 30, 1018 net-hours); Tobay—Thomas H. Davis, Frederick Schaeffer, Frank Enders (3607 birds banded in 34 days, mostly weekends, Jul 31–Oct 31, 4373 net-hours). All told, these five stations banded a total of about 14,000 birds of nearly 125 species.

Notable rarities were Eared Grebes, Magnificent Frigatebird, Fulvous Tree Ducks, Purple Gallinule, Sooty Tern, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Yellow-throated Warbler, Lark Bunting and Harris Sparrow.

Abbreviations used: JBWR—Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge; AMNH—American Museum of Natural History; LLAS—Lyman Langdon Audubon Society; net-netted. For the following locations only the first word is used: Inwood Hill Park, Jones Beach State Park, Pelham Bay Park, Riis Park, Tobay Wildlife Sanctuary and Van Cortlandt Park. For banding stations: AtlB—Atlantic Beach; Brook—Brookhaven; Hunt—Huntington.

Contributors frequently cited: FB—Frank Bader; PB—Paul Buckley; JB—John Bull; TD—Thomas Davis; LE—Leonard Epstein; FE—Frank Enders; RF—Robert Fisher; HH—Helen Hays; JH—Joseph Horowitz; WH—William Houston; PM—Paul Mayer; LM—Lee Morgan; WN—William Norse; RP—Richard Plunkett; DP—Dennis Puleston; GR—Gilbert Raynor; SS—Si Stepinoff; RS—Robert Sutherland; GT—Guy Tudor; CW—Cornelius Ward; LW—LeRoy Wilcox; JY—John Yrizarry.

LOONS—DUCKS: Eared Grebe: JBWR Oct 19 thru period, two present from Nov 7 (mob)—fourth consecutive fall report here. Cory's Shearwater: Montauk—two Sep 5 (LE, RS) and 80, Oct 12 (TD, RS, FB, WH). Gannet: max 200 plus, off Jones Oct 24 (FB). MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD: adult female Sep 18, Brookhaven (DP et al)—color photographed. Glossy Ibis: counts at roosts—83 Aug 25 Canarsie Pol, 52 Aug 27 Lawrence Marsh (both LE, HH)—highest counts for Region; one remained at JBWR to Nov 26 (mob). Am. Flamingo: Sep 2, Mecox

(LW); disappeared, then turned up Sep 9–Oct 16 at Shinnecock Inlet (mob)—probably an escape. Mute Swan: imm Sept 5 Tobay (CW)—unusual here. Whistling Swan: adult and imm with Mute Swans Oct 20 Montauk (GR)—earliest fall record for Region; Nov 20 Pt Lookout (CW).

Brant: max 10,000 Nov 21 JBWR (WN). Snow Goose: max 40, Oct 27 Brookhaven (DP). Blue Goose: Oct 31 Tobay (TD, P. Meyer et al). FULVOUS TREE DUCK: Oct 31–Nov 1, Van (WN, SS); one captured alive by cat Nov 12 Bellport (fide JB)—4th and 5th records for Region. Green-winged Teal: max 200 plus, Nov 21 JBWR (WN). European Widgeon: drake Oct 6 thru period JBWR (mob). Ring-necked Duck: Sep 27 JBWR (WN)—early. Greater Scaup: max at JBWR—300 on Oct 17, 7000 Nov 21 (both WN). Bufflehead: max 1000 plus, Nov 21 JBWR (WN)—appears to be rapidly increasing on Western Long Island over past three years (990 Dec 22, '63 Bronx Christmas Count and 1000 Dec 27, '64 Bronx C C—highest counts for Region). Harlequin Duck: drake Oct 20 Montauk (GR)—earliest record for Region; four females Nov 27 Montauk (GR); drake Nov 27 Pt Lookout (TD, S. Anes et al). Common Eider: Oct 2 Montauk (LM, RF)—very early. Surf Scoter: eight Aug 22 Jones (TD). Hooded Merganser: max 150 plus, Nov 21 JBWR (WN)—highest count for Region.

HAWKS—OWLS: Sharp-shinned Hawk: seven Oct 24 Jones (CW). Red-tailed Hawk: Oct 24 Jones (CW). Broad-winged Hawk: imm Oct 10 Jones (S. Schiff et al). Golden Eagle: adult Nov 11 Montauk (TD, FB, WH)—feathered tarsus seen as it sat atop pole. Bald Eagle: imm Oct 26–27 Speonk (LW)—eating ducks, "First seen here in 20 years;" two imm Oct 28 thru period Brookhaven (DP, GR)—compare dates. Peregrine Falcon: resident bird arrived at JBWR Sep 17 (FB); six Oct 2 Fire Island (CW)—season total there 24. Sparrow Hawk: 1000 plus, Sep 25 Fire Island (CW, TD et al). Ruffed Grouse: "Apparently down somewhat from peak of last two years but many observations of one to seven at Manorville and Upton thru season" (GR). PURPLE GALLINULE: imm found injured on Westhampton Golf Course Sep 23 (D. Maxwell), brought to Quoqua Wildlife Refuge where it died Sep 26, specimen preserved—first fall record for Region.

Shorebird reports from JBWR: Am. Oystercatcher: two Oct 6 (JB). Golden Plover: Aug 23 (A. Magee) to Oct 10 (mob). Willet: to Nov 25 (mob)—latest record for Region. Greater Yellowlegs: 205 Aug 29 East Pond (TD); 1000 plus, Sep 27 East Pond (WN)—highest count for Region. Knot: max 50 plus, Sep 27 (WN). Baird's Sandpiper: Sep 18 (WN). Long-billed Dowitcher: 30 Sep 4 (PB, WN, JH) to Nov 21, two (WN). Stilt Sandpiper: to Oct 17 (WN). Buff-breasted Sandpiper: Sep 4–7 (WN, PB, JH et al). Marbled Godwit: Sep 12 (S. Schiff) to Nov 14 (WN). Hudsonian Godwit: to Oct 26 (LM, GT). Ruff: Sep 25–28 (WN, M. Kleinbaum). Am. Avocet: Sep 18–25 (mob)—first Regional fall record since 1960. Northern Phalarope: Aug 29 (I. Cantor).

Golden Plover: two Oct 12 Montauk (TD, RS, FB, WH)—sitting on pebble beach. Upland Plover: six Aug 12 Kennedy Airport (N. Holgersen); two Sep 14 Piping Rock Country Club, Lattingtown (L. Nawojchik, R. Cioffi)—late. Solitary Sandpiper: Oct 31 Van (WN). Greater Yellowlegs: 169 Oct 19 Tobay (TD). Hudsonian Godwit: two Sep 4–19, one to Oct 2, Tobay (mob); late Aug Hempstead Reservoir (fide CW). Red Phalarope: four Sep 12 off Jones (Linnaean Boat Trip). Parasitic Jaeger: two adults Oct 12 Montauk (TD, RS, FB, WH). Little Gull: adult Oct 6 Kennedy Airport (JB); adult Nov 27 Montauk (mob). Black-legged Kittiwake: Montauk—two Nov 16 (GT), six Nov 27 (mob). SOOTY TERN: two Sep 8 Mecox Bay (LW). Least Tern: JBWR, one to Oct 10 (mob)—latest record for Region. Caspian Tern: two Sep 20 Shinnecock (LW); two Oct 2 Tobay (TD, RS); five Oct 2 Sagaponack (LM, RF). Black Skimmer: 2000 Aug 29 JBWR (JB)—highest count for Region; 700 plus, Oct 3 JBWR (WN). Razorbill: Montauk—four Nov 16 (GT, LM), two Nov 27 (LE, FE, GR, RS), two Nov 28 (DP). Dovekie: at Montauk—

eight Nov 11 (TD, FB, WH), five Nov 13 (LLAS), 31 Nov 16 (LM, GT), eight Nov 27 (LE, FE, GR, RS); at Pt Lookout—two Nov 14 (TD, LM, FE), two Nov 27 (TD, FB); at Shinnecock Inlet—one Nov 16 (SS), one Nov 21 (DP, GR); one Nov 21 Blue Pt (DP)—five miles inland, found alive in field.

Barn Owl: Nov 21 Oak Beach (CW et al). Barred Owl: Sep 26 Inwood (WN)—migrant. SAW-WHET OWL: large invasion; first, one found dead Sep 28 Jones (fide JB). Of 91 reports received, two were in Sep, 56 in Oct and 33 in Nov. Banding station totals—12 at Hunt Oct 10–31; 14 at Tobay Oct 3–31; 31 at AtLB Sep 30–Nov 30; also six captured and banded along Jones strip Nov 21 and 27 (TD). There were no repeats at the banding stations nor were any banded birds recovered at any other locality. Complete details in May issue.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Yellow-shafted Flicker: peak, (14) net Sep 26 Tobay. Red-headed Woodpecker: only reports—imm Oct 9 Jones (LE et al) and imm Oct 27 Riis (FB). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 13 net AtLB Sep 26–Oct 9, max (six) Oct 6; 11 net Tobay Sep 26–Oct 10, max (five) Oct 3; none net Brook. Hairy Woodpecker: flight year; ten net Brook Sep 3–Oct 30; three net Hunt Sep 4–Oct 2; one each net Tiana and Tobay Oct 19. Downy Woodpecker: flight year; 52 net Brook Aug 3–Oct 30, peak (22) Oct 17–30; 41 net Tobay July 31–Oct 30, peak (15) Oct 17–30; 15 net Hunt Aug 15–Oct 17; 14 net AtLB July 31–Oct 11; 11 net Tiana Aug 30–Oct 30. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: male Oct 17 Great Neck (W. Davis); Oct 22 Bronx Pk (D. Rafferty); Nov 16 Brookhaven Nat. Lab. (SS).

Eastern Kingbird: 910 Aug 29 Riis (TD)—sunrise to 9 AM, migrating in loose flocks of up to 40 birds, highest count for Region. Western Kingbird: seven (all coastal) Oct 3–24. SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER: Sep 11 West Gilgo Beach (TD, FE); Sep 12 Tobay (CW); Sep 16 Jones (E. Levine)—probably all same bird, fourth fall record for Region. Eastern Phoebe: 32 net Tobay Sep 25–Oct 20, max (11) Sep 26; 29 net Tiana Sep 27–Oct 15, max (16) Oct 11; max net AtLB (ten) Oct 11. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 12 net Hunt Aug 17–Sep 26, peak (five) Aug 30–Sep 4; one each net Brook Sep 22 and Tobay Sep 4. Acadian Flycatcher: three net Brook Sep 2, Oct 3 and 4—latest for Region. Traill's Flycatcher: 14 net Brook Aug 11–Sep 27; eight net Hunt Aug 12–Sep 18; eight net Tobay July 31–Sep 25, max (four) Sep 4; one net AtLB Aug 29. Least Flycatcher: 16 net Hunt July 16–Sep 15, peak (five) Aug 30–31; four net Tobay Sep 4–Oct 9; ten net Brook Aug 4–Oct 11, latest record for Region; one net Atlb Oct 8. "Empidonax" (probably Least): two net Tiana Oct 11; Oct 12 Riis (WN, RF, RP); Oct 12 Montauk Pt (TD, RS); one net Tiana Oct 14.

Blue Jay: flight year; 86 net Brook Aug 4–Oct 26, peak (55) Sep 18–Oct 9; 72 net Hunt Aug 15–Nov 14, peak (37) Sep 18–Oct 17. Black-capped Chickadee: flight year; 216 net Brook Aug 3–Oct 31, peak (119) Sep 29–Oct 14; 26 net Tobay Sep 26–Oct 31, peak (19) Sep 26–Oct 10. Boreal Chickadee: Oct 31 Van (WN); Nov 8 Rye (SS); Nov 28 Montauk (DP). White-breasted Nuthatch: flight year, usually rare on coast; 12 net Tobay Sep 18–Oct 2; ten net AltB Sep 19–Oct 16; five net Brook Oct 13–28. Brown Creeper: 50 net Tobay Sep 18–Oct 31, max (19) Oct 3; 29 net Brook Sep 26–Oct 31, peak (12) Oct 3–4; 19 net Tiana Sep 27–Oct 28, max (eight) Oct 11; max net AtLB (19) Oct 3, (17) Oct 10, (ten) Oct 11. House Wren: 26 net Brook Aug 1–Oct 5, max (five) Sep 7; four net Tiana, to Oct 26—late. Winter Wren: max 15 at Inwood Oct 11 (WN)—highest count for Region; nine net Brook Oct 6–31, peak (eight) Oct 6–13. Long-billed Marsh Wren: 17 net Brook Aug 7–Oct 18, max (three) Sep 26; five net Tobay Sep 19–26, max (three) Sep 26. Short-billed Marsh Wren: Oct 17 JBWR (WN). Catbird: 437 net Brook Aug 1–Oct 19, 228 in Aug and 186 in Sep; 178 net Hunt Aug 15–Nov 7, peak (25) Sep 26 (101 Sep 18–Oct 10); 137 net Tobay July 31–Oct 30, peaks (39) Sep 4–6 and (16) Sep 26.

Robin: 91 net Tobay Aug 22–Oct 31, peak (27) Oct 30. Wood Thrush: max

counts—eight net Tobay Sep 26; nine net Hunt Sep 26. Hermit Thrush: poor flight—41 net Tobay Oct 16–31, peak (25) Oct 30; eight net Tiana Oct 7–26; 15 net Brook Oct 3–29; 20, Oct 29 Inwood (WN); 30, Oct 26 Riis (GT). Swainson's Thrush: peak net Hunt (77) Sep 26–27; 30 net Brook Aug 30–Oct 13, peak (18) Sep 26–28; 25 net Tobay Sep 18–Oct 20, max (13) Sep 26; 21 net AtlB Sep 7–Oct 29 (one to Nov 8); max 40, Sep 26 Inwood (WN). Gray-cheeked Thrush: peak net Hunt (24) Sep 26–27; 21 net Tobay Sep 25–Oct 3, peak (16) Sep 26; 18 net Brook Sep 26–Oct 14; 13 net AtlB Sep 19–Oct 11; seven net Tiana Sep 20–Oct 11. Veery: 13 net Tobay Aug 22–Sep 6, peak (ten) Sep 4–5; peak net Hunt (32) Aug 30–31; nine net Brook Aug 31–Oct 4, peak (seven) Sep 6–8. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: seven reports, last Oct 29 (net at Tiana). Golden-crowned Kinglet: 52 net Tiana, peak (14) Oct 11; peak net Hunt (21) Oct 17; 21 net Tobay Oct 3–24, peak (eight) Oct 3. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: poor flight; 116 net Tiana, peak (26) Oct 11; 32 net Tobay Sep 26–Oct 30, peak (six) Oct 17; peaks net AtlB (17) Oct 3 and (12) Oct 11; peak net Hunt (23) Oct 3. Water Pipit: Sep 7 Montauk (GR)—early. Northern Shrike: one net Tiana Sep 20—earliest record for Region by a month; Nov 16 Montauk (LM, GT). Starling: max counts of flocks migrating west along coast—several hundreds, Tobay Oct 24 (TD); several 1000, Oct 27 Jones (PB, W. Sedwitz); 2000 plus, Nov 7 Riis (TD).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: White-eyed Vireo: two net Brook Aug 17 and Sep 11. Yellow-throated Vireo: one net Brook Sep 9. Red-eyed Vireo: 31 net Tobay Sep 4–Oct 17, peak (13) Sep 26. Philadelphia Vireo: only seven reports (incl. one net) Sep 10–Oct 5. Warbling Vireo: Inwood Sep 7 (WN); four net Tobay, two each Sep 4 and 5; one net Tiana Sep 9—rare coastal migrant.

Warblers: Black-and-white: 30 net Tobay Sep 19–Oct 24, peak (23) Sep 26; one net AtlB Nov 8 and one seen Nov 23—extremely late. Worm-eating: one net Brook Aug 18. "Brewster's": Aug 22, Inwood (WN). Orange-crowned: nine reports (incl. two nettings) Sep 23–Oct 20. Nashville: max ten Aug 31 Inwood (WN); Nov 23 Tryon Pk (S. Raices)—late. Yellow: 155 net Brook, peak (92) Aug 3–14; one net Tiana Oct 11—very late. Magnolia: 20 net Tobay Sep 4–Oct 3, peak (15) Sep 25–26; peak net Hunt, ten Sep 26. Myrtle: 411 net Hunt Oct 2–Nov 14, peak (137) Oct 17; 933 net Tiana Sep 20–Oct 30, peak (213) Oct 11; 1001 net Brook Aug 13–Oct 31, peaks (268) Oct 11 and (208) Oct 14; 1501 net Tobay Sep 4–Oct 3, peaks (556) Oct 16 and (234) Oct 30. Black-throated Green: max four net Tobay Sep 26. YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER: Sep 18–19 Riis (J. Mayer, G. Rose, E. Swayer et al)—fifth fall record for Region (all coastal). Chestnut-sided: one net Tiana Oct 11—late. Blackpoll: 27 net Tobay Sep 11–Oct 22, peak (nine) Sep 26. Pine: five reports (incl. three net) Sep 26–Oct 27. Prairie: max five net Tobay Sep 25; net Tiana Oct 26—late. Palm: poor year; first Aug 29 Riis (F. Heath)—early; 45 net Tiana Sep 16–Oct 30, peak (26) Oct 4–13 (268 net last fall); 20 net Tobay Sep 18–Oct 23; 49 net Brook Sep 14–Oct 28, peak (25) Sep 27–Oct 11. Ovenbird: 15 net Brook Aug 3–Oct 4 (11 in Sep). Northern Waterthrush: 54 net Hunt July 21–Oct 17, peak (nine) Sep 8; 44 net Tobay Aug 1–Oct 9, peak (three) Sep 26; 114 net Brook Aug 1–Oct 14, peak (25) Sep 8–9; four net Tiana, one on Oct 28—late. Kentucky: one net AtlB Sep 19—color photographed. Connecticut: two net Hunt Sep 8 and 26; four net Brook Sep 11 (two), 12 and 16; one net Tiana Sep 20; Oct 13 Inwood (WN); Sep 18 Jones (CW). Mourning: three net Hunt Aug 11, Sep 25, 27; three net Brook Sep 15, 16, 30; Aug 30 Inwood (WN); Oct 3 Jones (R. Arbib)—late. Yellowthroat: 78 net Tobay, peaks (15) Aug 15, Sep 26; 457 net Brook, peaks (23) Aug 16 and (20) Sep 26; peak net AtlB (16) Sep 26–27; Nov 25 Inwood (WN)—late. Yellow-breasted Chat: nine net Tiana Aug 30–Oct 25; 13 net Brook Aug 14–Oct 3; five net Hunt Sep 24–Oct 31; three net Tobay Aug 14, 15, 22; one net AtlB Sep 13; Sep 17–18 Inwood (WN). Canada: peak net Hunt (14) Aug 29–30; max 30, Aug 31 Inwood (WN). Redstart: 55 net Tobay Aug 14–Oct 10, peak (19) Sep 26; 48 net Brook Aug 4–Oct 24, peak (nine) Sep 9.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Red-winged Blackbird: 910 Aug 29 Riis (TD)—

early movement; max 3000 plus, Nov 2 Riis (TD et al); 800 Nov 2 Inwood (GT, LM). Baltimore Oriole: max—40 Aug 29 Riis (TD), 200 Aug 22 Tobay (A. Dignan)—highest counts for Region; 37 net Brook Aug 6—Oct 8, peak (34) Aug 13—25. Brown-headed Cowbird: max 1500 Nov 27 Pelham (CT). Western Tanager: Sep 30 Inwood (WN); Oct 3 Jones (R. Arbib). Summer Tanager: one net AtlB Sep 15—color photographed. Blue Grosbeak: Oct 8 Inwood (WN); Nov 9—14 East Marion (J. Bennett, GR)—very late. Dickcissel: only five reports, Sep 12—Oct 16. Evening Grosbeak: Oct 16 Jones (fide M. Kleinbaum); two Oct 17 Tobay (TD, FE); Oct 18 Tiana (LW); 20, Oct 20 Inwood (WN)—“daily after this;” max 150 Nov 5 Locust Valley (W. Astle); four at feeder Nov 12 Manhasset (J. Prior). House Finch: “flock of 30—40 appeared in mid—Oct at East Marion where previously only a few strays had been seen.” (GR). Pine Grosbeak: two Oct 25 Inwood (WN); Nov 6 Jones (J. Von Glahn); Nov 16 Montauk (LM).

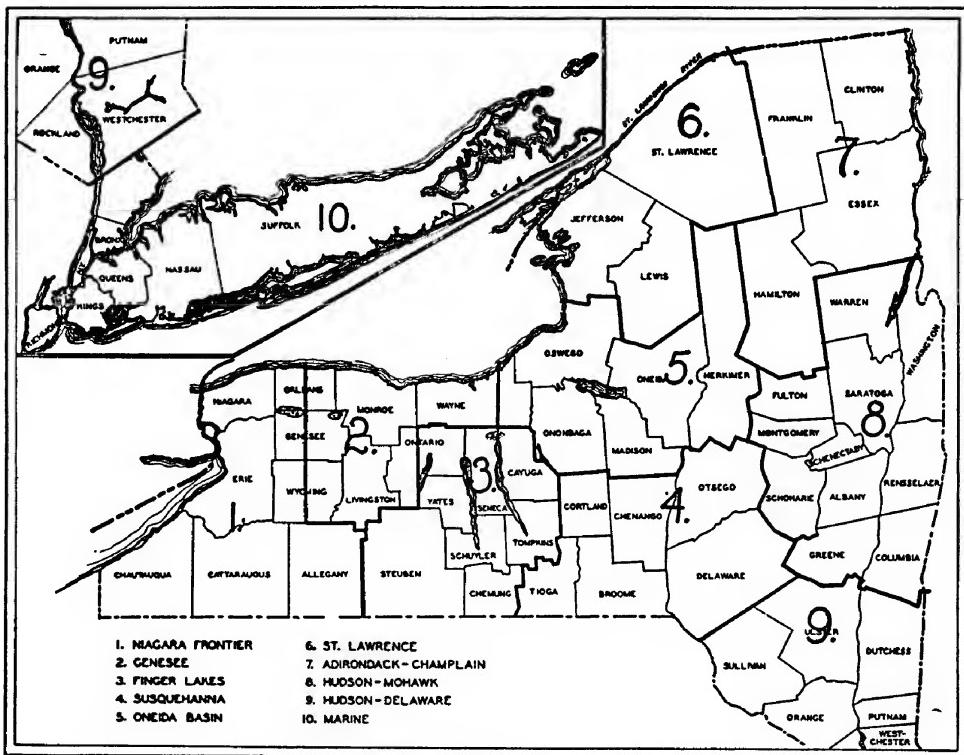
Redpoll: Nov 1 New Rochelle (SS); two Nov 6 Riis (FB); Nov 7 JBWR (mob); six Nov 14 JBWR (WN). Pine Siskin: first, Oct 2 Tobay (TD); “largest flight I have ever seen on Long Island”, counts at Tiana first Oct 6, 400 Oct 18, 600 Oct 19, 1000 Oct 25, 500 Oct 27, 700 Oct 28, 200 Oct 29 (LW); 1000 plus, Jones, Oct 24 (CW) and Oct 27 (PB, W. Sedwitz). Goldfinch: 86 net Tiana, all but one in Oct; 210 net Brook, 191 in Oct. Red Crossbill: ten Oct 26 Inwood (WN); seven Nov 2 JBWR (WN); max 25 Nov 7 Riis (TD, JY); small flocks reported along coast thru Nov. White-winged Crossbill: 25 Oct 29 Inwood (WN); eight Oct 31 East Marion (J. Bennett); max 50 Nov 7 Riis (TD, JY); 40 Nov 16 Montauk (LM, GT); reported along coast in small numbers thru Nov. Rufous-sided Towhee: 55 net Tobay Aug 14—Oct 19, peak (14) Sep 19; 14 net AtlB Oct 11. LARK BUNTING: one in female or winter plumage, closely observed in flight at Westhampton Beach Oct 17 (GR)—“Wing markings, other characteristics clearly seen. I have seen large numbers in the West.” Savannah Sparrow: 67 net Tobay Sep 11—Oct 31, peak (14) Sep 26; 66 net Tiana Sep 3—Oct 30, peak (nine) Oct 14; 132 net Brook Sep 8—Oct 31, peak (36) Oct 14. Grasshopper Sparrow: four reports (incl. three net) Oct 6—27. Henslow’s Sparrow: Oct 11 Inwood (WN). Sharp-tailed Sparrow: migrants net Tobay Aug 15 and Oct 3, Tiana Sep 29, Brook Oct 3; one of the inland race Nov 19 Van (WN). Seaside Sparrow: migrant net Tiana Aug 30. Vesper Sparrow: max 20, Oct 23 Baxter Creek, Bronx (WN). Lark Sparrow: four reports (incl. one net at Tiana) Sep 19—Nov 27, Montauk (LE, GR, FE, RS)—very late. Slate-colored Junco: poor flight; net Brook Oct 3—30; nine net Hunt Oct 3—24; 85 net Tiana (579 last fall) Sep 27—Oct 30, peak (27) Oct 26; 46 net Tobay Oct 3—31, peak (25) Oct 17; peak net AtlB (35) Oct 25—26. Clay-colored Sparrow: Oct 23 Riis (SS, J. Mayer, G. Rose, C. Young); Oct 31 Quogue Wildlife Refuge (DP). HARRIS’ SPARROW: adult at feeder Oct 31—Nov 3, Quogue Wildlife Refuge (LW, DP, GR et al)—photographed, third record for Region. White-throated Sparrow: 116 net Tobay Sep 18—Oct 31, peaks (34) Oct 17 and (35) Oct 30; 73 net Brook Sep 11—Oct 29, peak (ten) Oct 16; 130 net Hunt Sep 26—Nov 14, peak (23) Oct 31; peaks net AtlB (49) Oct 11, (89) Oct 11—13; max 750 plus, Oct 11 Inwood (WN). Lincoln’s Sparrow: 19 net Brook Sep 14—Oct 29 (three), peak (six) Sep 27—30; seven net, “a few others” seen Sep 26—Oct 28 Manorville (GR); four net Tiana Sep 21—Oct 14; three each net Tobay Sep 18—Oct 17, Hunt Sep 27—Oct 10, AtlB Sep 28—Nov 16 (very late). Swamp Sparrow: 558 net Brook (last fall 1389 net) Aug 20—Oct 31, peak (59) Oct 14 (502 in Oct); 59 net Tobay Sep 26—Oct 31, peak (18) Oct 30; peak net Hunt, ten Oct 10. Song Sparrow: poor flight; 570 net Brook (832 last year) Aug 1—Oct 31, peak (39) Oct 25; 212 net Tobay July 31—Oct 31, peak (34) Oct 17 and (35) Oct 30; 125 net Tiana (348 last year) Aug 30—Oct 30, peaks (16) Oct 26 and 13 Oct 29; 56 net Hunt Aug 15—Nov 17, peak (17) Oct 31. Snow Bunting: early arrival; three Oct 17 JBWR (WN); Oct 17 Tobay (TD); Oct 18 Tiana (LW).

Note Please have Winter reports in by April 7 (preferably a week earlier).

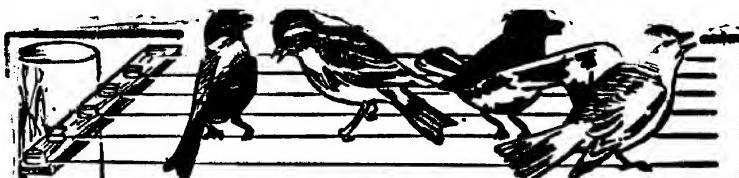
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